UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/378
12 September 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
Items 91 and 100 of the provisional agenda*

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

1994 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In its resolutions 44/77 of 8 December 1989 and 44/171 of 19 December 1989, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit the final version of the 1994 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development to the Assembly in 1994. In accordance with Commission on the Status of Women resolution 36/8 of 20 March 1992, the World Survey will be one of the principal documents for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace. In accordance with Assembly resolution 48/108 of 20 December 1993, a preliminary executive summary of the World Survey was provided to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1994 (E/1994/86), through the Commission on the Status of Women.

2. This is the third of the quinquennial World Surveys to have been prepared. The first, a draft of which was available to the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the Decade for Women at Nairobi in 1985, was issued in 1986. 1/ The second was issued in 1989. 2/ The Surveys are now timed to be issued in the year previous to the five-yearly review and appraisal of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women. Each Survey has had a particular point of departure. The first explored the contribution of women to the economy so as to demonstrate that women were key participants in economic development. The second started to explore the relationship between the participation of women and the global adjustment process that was under way. The third Survey examines what has happened as a result of the restructuring process and the emergence of women as decisive elements in the global economy.

---

* A/49/150.

It is intended, by examining the most recent information available, to project trends of how men and women, in playing their ascribed roles in society, affect and are affected by the global economy.

3. The first World Survey was one of the few studies examining the role of women in the economy. Since then, the question of women and development has started to be incorporated into many mainstream surveys of the global economy, and the situation of women in the recent past has been accurately described in these studies. The third Survey, therefore, concentrates on identifying trends and considering how a gender perspective might change the way development concepts are expressed.

4. Many specialized agencies have contributed sections to the text, including the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the International Trade Centre (ITC), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); other organizations provided inputs to these. A first draft was circulated to the organizations of the United Nations system.

5. The full text of the Survey, including tables, reaches some 250 pages and will be available to the Fourth World Conference on Women. It will be submitted through the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-ninth session, acting as the preparatory committee for the Conference, and will constitute one of the factual bases for the Platform of Action to be adopted at the Conference.

6. In view of these considerations, and given the documentation constraints confronting the General Assembly, the Secretary-General is presenting only the executive summary of the document to the Assembly at its forty-ninth session. The Secretary-General recommends that the Assembly consider the summary at its current session and return to the full version at its fiftieth session under an agenda item entitled "Effective mobilization of women in development", taking into account also at that time the results of the Fourth World Conference on Women.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

7. Since the last Survey in 1989, the world has experienced a fundamental change in its economic relations, in which women were a major factor. The 1980s ended with a slow-down in economic growth in developed and developing countries, and the 1990s have started with a recession followed by a slow and cautious recovery. Progress in developed and developing countries has been uneven. Many developing countries have encountered significant difficulties in implementing structural adjustment programmes. The relative positions of countries in the developing and the developed worlds have changed, and new growth poles have emerged. Markets have become further integrated through trade and global investment, and interdependence among economies has increased. This trend has been further reinforced by the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, which sought to keep the world trade system open and promised its further liberalization.

8. These changes took place in a context where there has been a renewed emphasis on democratization and good governance, as well as on the use of the market to direct economic development. Perceptions of the meaning, causes and conditions of development have been greatly modified. Development discourse now emphasizes sustainability and the human dimension.

9. The world economy has changed and, in certain measure, it is women who have made many of the positive changes possible. Economic development and growth appears to be intricately related to the advancement of women. Where women have advanced, economic growth has usually been steady; where women have not been allowed to be full participants, there has been stagnation. The Survey is about this process, what it means and how it can be built upon for a more secure future for humankind. It looks at development through a gender lens: at poverty as a failure of development and how investing in the capacities of women represents a way out; at employment, where the participation of women is decisive in the transformation of the labour force; and at economic decision-making, where the absence of women at the top of large corporate bureaucracies and their growing presence in a dynamic middle sector affects development policies.

10. Despite its considerable significance for economic advancement and the sustainability of development, the change in the role of women in development has continued as a largely unnoticed evolutionary process. It is now possible to see many trends in this process clearly for the first time in the statistical series contained in the Women's Indicators and Statistics Data Base (WISTAT), in a growing corpus of micro-studies, and in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies. To mark these trends, the 1994 World Survey employs what is now called gender analysis.

11. Gender analysis views women and men in terms of the roles they play in society, roles which can change as societies change. By comparing women and men, rather than looking at women as a group seen in isolation, gender analysis illuminates a key aspect of the structure of society and makes it easier to identify obstacles to its improvement. Central to the analysis is the distinction between productive and reproductive roles, referring to production of goods and services and to the social reproduction of society over generations, and their interrelationship. Both roles are valuable and both can be performed by women and men alike. In the past, social reproductive roles were largely assigned to women and productive roles largely to men. This is changing, but the tension between the two remains and is a recurrent theme of the 1994 World Survey.

12. Two types of changes have occurred over the past 10 years in what could be called the enabling environment for women in the economy. One is changes in the legal status of women in the direction of equality. The other is the longer-term effects of achieving equal access by women to education and training. Taken together, these changes have served to provide equal opportunities for an increasing proportion of women and have allowed them to participate fully in development, contributing with the particular skills and priorities that derive from their gender roles.

13. The gradual achievement of de jure equality for women is reflected in the increase in the number of States party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. In most of these States, ratification or accession has required the elimination of legal restrictions that had impeded women from obtaining access to the factors of production: land, capital and technology. While progress in exercising these rights has been less rapid, especially where there is a gap between constitutional principle, enabling legislation and customary behaviour, in States that are party to the Convention, especially those that have not registered reservations, progress towards equality in economic participation is evident.

14. In most regions of the world, there has been notable progress towards equality between men and women in access to education at all levels. By 1990, most regions had achieved or were close to achieving equality in primary school enrolment, a marked change from 1970. Even more rapid progress can be observed in secondary and tertiary levels of education. There are regional differences however. In Africa and south Asia in particular, progress in eliminating the gap between girls and boys has been less rapid.

15. The rapid elimination of differences in access to education does not mean that the access problem has been solved. Although women are doing much better than before in terms of access to education and years of education attained, the situation remains problematic with regard to the content of curriculum materials, which are often gender biased, the social and organizational arrangements in schools, and the presence of women in decision-making positions in the school system at all levels. Girls are still channelled into typical female fields of study and career paths, especially with regard to the technological skills needed to meet the challenges of information and technological progress in order to enable women to continue to take on gainful employment. Adult illiteracy, a consequence of past inequality in access and which is far more prevalent among women than men, needs to be addressed as does the broader issue of training.

16. However, it can no longer be said for the women now entering the labour force for the first time that their educational backgrounds are inferior to those of men. The longer term consequences of this equality still needs to be seen, but its present-day effects are certain.

17. The impact of the economic reforms of the 1980s, while similar in terms of its direction, have had different consequences for men and women in terms of the distribution of the adjustment burden. Rapid technological innovation, accompanying changes in work organization, growing economic interdependence, and the globalization of markets and production affected the socio-economic position of women in a complex and multidimensional way, bringing them into the formal labour market in unprecedented numbers. This had both positive and negative aspects.

18. In developed countries, as a result of industrial restructuring in the context of persisting gender-related wage differentials, layoffs undertaken to achieve cost reduction were often geared towards higher paid workers. The workers and managers let go under these circumstances were more often men than women, since women were, on the whole, lower paid. General increases in living

costs associated with recession meant that in many countries women chose to enter the labour market in circumstances that were often precarious and without social support. This had the consequence of narrowing the remuneration gap between women and men.

19. The increase in labour force participation was not, however, a matter of women replacing men in their jobs. It was rather a consequence of structural change and greater willingness on the part of women to accept initially lower pay in the growth sectors. It is also true that women, whose traditional labour history had involved frequent moves in and out of the labour force in connection with maternity or the need to provide care to dependants and a willingness to work on a part-time basis or do outwork, were more acceptable to the new model of the flexible firm. Moreover, a shift in the crucial service sector to businesses requiring highly skilled staff, coupled with the increase of qualified women and the relatively lower barriers to employment, have helped bring women into better paid jobs.

20. There is increasing evidence of a relationship between the advancement of women and economic performance. The very nature of restructuring policies has led to an increase in women in the labour force, initially as part of a lower paid labour force in labour-intensive industry. Subsequently, progress in the liberalization of markets has reinforced this participation and is beginning to reflect itself in a move of female labour into higher paid, more skilled sectors.

21. In the economies in transition, the short-run situation has been almost the opposite. Women had already achieved equality in labour force participation, but the economic restructuring of State-owned enterprises, in which a large share of the economically active female population was employed, has led to high unemployment among women. Women appear to be at a greater disadvantage than men in the context of transition. Evidence suggests that in the sectors most affected by reform, women are laid off first. When unemployed, women face greater difficulties than men in obtaining alternative employment. Privatization favoured those in the previous system who had access to capital, information and markets. In the former system these had been predominately men, and this has carried over to the new economies. The initial evidence suggests that men are predominately being employed in the new industries. However, it is not clear that these trends will persist, given the qualifications possessed by women, particularly in new growth areas after economic stabilization has been achieved.

22. The situation is further complicated by the fact that the new private sector firms are unable or unwilling to maintain the social support services that were part of employment under the former system, making it difficult for women to participate in economic activity on the same basis as before.

23. In developing countries, the effects of global restructuring varied by region. Structural adjustment inevitably began with stabilization policies that were intended to set the stage for the resumption of growth by reducing inflation rates and achieving a sustainable balance-of-payments position. This inevitably meant an increase in living costs as subsidies were removed and prices for staple goods rose to market levels, and as government expenditure

cuts were often accompanied by service charges for health care and education. It was women who bore the first brunt of coping with these changes within the household. Subsequently, women who previously had not been in the formal economically active population became economically active. At the same time, farmers who bought more food than they produced, small producers and public and urban informal sector workers, categories in which a relatively high proportion are women, have been among the hardest hit.

24. The changes in employment patterns that occurred in the context of economic restructuring affected women in particular ways. In the process of intra- and intersectoral employment shifts, women in large numbers accepted lower paid jobs with little security. However, it was often the case that women were employed while their spouses were not. If there had to be a choice between "low pay" or "no pay", women accepted low pay, while their spouses often chose no pay rather than accepting lower remuneration. However, jobs for men were often simply not available. As a consequence, women were often more able than men to obtain jobs in growth sectors.

25. This has been particularly the case in the economies promoting export-oriented trade regimes based on labour-intensive manufacturing and international cost reduction. In the export-oriented sectors, women have often been the preferred employees.

26. In Asia, where growth has been based on outward-oriented development strategies, women constituted the larger share of those employed in the export-oriented industries. Similar trends are being observed in Latin America and the Caribbean as economies in that region take steps towards greater economic liberalization. In contrast, production of tradeable goods largely based on primary commodities in Africa has tended to work against women, who predominate in the production of non-tradeable food crops.

27. The short-run effects of structural adjustment have been more difficult for women than for men. While it is difficult to evaluate the longer-term effects, it would seem that the major gender factor has been the inability of women to benefit from changes in the incentive structures that were due to the pre-existing, sex-related barriers to reallocation of labour. To the extent that this is addressed in current policies, some of the negative consequences may be mitigated. Similarly, where privatization benefits micro- and small-scale enterprises, into which women are moving rapidly, the adjustment process can have longer-term benefits for women. Market deregulation, which in effect allows firms to have high wage flexibility, has particularly benefited women in the short-run, because female employment has increased. This will be a long-term benefit, however, if women are able to obtain equal pay with men and upgrade their skills so as to move into high-productivity sectors.

28. Changes in world trade patterns have, as noted, led to increased female industrial employment in those countries where growth of exports has been particularly strong. In this sense, increases in trade from developed to developing countries has been, to some extent, determined by women workers. Whether this will translate into long-term benefits will also depend on whether women will be given the opportunities to refine their skills, since labour force quality is a major component in international competition. The growth in the

importance of transnational corporations is also significant, since they have a clear preference for employment of women in export processing zones. It may also be positive to the extent that they implement in their subsidiaries the equal opportunity policies mandated in their headquarters countries. There is little evidence about whether any shift in international financial flows will improve the economic status of women, although should new investment reach firms owned by or employing women, this would be positive.

29. The Survey has explored, using the new data available from WISTAT, the relationship between economic growth and the participation of women in the labour force. The analysis shows that women benefit from economic growth, sometimes to a greater extent than men, but not everywhere and not always. Regional differences in this context are very important. The most relative benefit has been in the countries of eastern and south-eastern Asia, where growth has been export-based. However, the comparative data suggest that, as the economy grows and the labour market becomes tighter, competitiveness in skills assumes a greater role than labour cost in terms of the allocation of employment opportunities between women and men. Unless women are able to upgrade their skills and catch up with the technological upgrading of the economy in developing countries, the opportunities for them to benefit from economic growth to a greater extent than men will disappear.

30. The relationship between the global economic environment, the enabling environment and the role of women in the economy can be seen in the analysis of three central themes of the Survey: poverty; productive employment; and women and economic decision-making.

Poverty

31. Poverty is universally considered to be unacceptable; it represents a major failure of development. Analysing its causes and solutions from a gender perspective can help illuminate the nature of development and help identify successful policies and programmes for both men and women.

32. The extent to which an evident increase in poverty is a longer-term global trend is still a matter of debate, but there is no question that there are more poor than ever in the world, that poverty is increasing in some regions, or that women and men experience poverty differently. Despite a renewal in economic growth world wide, the number of people living in absolute poverty has increased in developing and developed regions alike.

33. A gender perspective looks at how and why women and men experience poverty differently and how they become poor through different processes. While poverty can be measured at different levels, ranging from the individual to the nation, a particularly appropriate level for gender analysis is the household, consisting of people living together in the same place for a common purpose. Households, with shared income and consumption, experience poverty and have to cope with it. In the household always, but especially where sharing is unequal, gender usually has significant consequences for well-being.

34. At the intra-household level, poverty is defined in terms of consumption. Poverty is the condition of deprivation; not having enough food, shelter and

other essentials to meet basic needs. Consumption within the household is less determined by the income brought in by a member than by cultural and social factors determining who can bring in income and how the goods available for consumption are shared, factors which often favour men.

35. One approach to understanding poverty from a gender perspective is based on the concepts of entitlements and endowments. An entitlement is a right to command resources. An endowment consists of the skills, access and other resources that make it possible to exercise an entitlement. In that sense, poverty is a failure to ensure entitlements because of inadequate endowments. In gender terms, this can be seen in terms of asymmetries between women and men in their entitlements and endowments. Taken together, these asymmetries reproduce the vicious cycle of poverty and explain why men and women experience it differently.

36. In the household, it can mean that women have fewer entitlements to household goods, coupled with additional responsibilities. They have less command over labour, whether their own or of others to help them undertake activities. The division of labour between women and men is unfavourable to women, who must work longer hours at largely unremunerated tasks. Similarly, women receive less return for their labour in income terms than men, although they are more likely to use their income for household purposes. Moreover, most women have fewer entitlements to officially distributed resources, whether in the form of land, extension services or credit, especially in rural areas. This, in turn, prevents women from building up their skills and resources.

37. The strongest direct link between gender and poverty is found in the situation of female-headed households, the existence of which is considered to be a significant indicator of female poverty. While female headship formally should mean that a woman is the person most financially responsible for the household, that definition is not always used in census counts, when an adult male is usually assumed to be the head. Thus, when the head of a household is counted to be a woman, this usually means that there is no adult male present and the woman is the only support. In developing regions, there are major differences, with the highest percentage found in sub-Saharan Africa, although globally the percentage of female-headed households is highest in Europe and North America, where they constitute the poorest segment of otherwise relatively wealthy societies. Female headship can be the result of migration, family dissolution, male mortality or unpartnered fertility.

38. What is characteristic of these female-headed households is a high dependency ratio, coupled with fewer adult income earners. Unlike households with two or more adult income earners, female-headed households place women in a situation of having to undertake both productive and reproductive activities, with an inevitable trade-off between the two. Female-headed households in general are poorer because of this, and the welfare of children in them has been found to be generally less good in terms of nutrition, health and education, although this varied by region.

39. Education can be clearly identified as a mitigating factor for poverty. There has been progress in reducing the gap between boys and girls, but the progress has been less rapid in some regions, such as Africa, and in rural areas

generally. For poor households generally, sending children to school can involve difficult choices, however positive the long-run results may be. However, a number of innovative programmes have demonstrated that illiteracy and low school attendance for girls can be addressed successfully. Similarly, training of women in economic sectors where their role is particularly important, such as agriculture, forestry and fishing, can lead to important economic returns. Education and training for members of refugee households, which are predominately female-headed, has also grown in importance.

40. Poverty is particularly acute in rural areas, and has particular consequences for women. A combination of factors, including cutbacks in services as part of restructuring, environmental degradation, consequences of past discrimination reflected in female illiteracy, male out-migration leading to female-headed households, all coupled with women's traditional limited access to factors of production combine to feminize rural poverty. Least developed countries are themselves predominately rural. Moreover, export-oriented growth in agriculture has directed resources towards export crops, which are usually controlled by men, rather than to food production, which is largely undertaken by women.

41. Much of what is known about gender aspects of rural poverty is derived from micro-studies; there is a general absence of data disaggregated by sex, a prerequisite for recognition of the role of women in agriculture. On the whole, the evidence suggests that economic activity of women in rural areas is increasing, but not their participation in decision-making.

42. Strengthened grass-roots organizations of women, especially at the community level, are becoming ever more important. These organizations have been found to be effective in increasing participation, but suffer from a lack of support and resources. National machinery for the advancement of women can help remedy this by encouraging increased participation by women. A variety of programmes to establish and strengthen these organizations can be envisaged in the context of democratization, including various types of information and promotional campaigns.

43. Rural poverty has to be addressed in terms of access to and control of productive resources. Access to land is of particular concern since, traditionally, land is passed from father to son and reform measures have tended to reinforce this pattern. Improvement of de jure access to land by women is an important factor in the success of rural development policies. Similarly, removing obstacles to the access of women to paid labour can help address this gender asymmetry. Provision of access to modern technology can also help.

44. Improved access to credit can be a major means of addressing poverty by releasing the productive abilities of women. While many credit programmes do not take women into account, especially poor women, women have proven to be better credit risks on the whole than men, particularly when credit has been accompanied by extension, training and assistance in marketing. It requires identifying the particular needs of women, including the need to balance the multiple roles played by both women and men.

/...

45. Provision of extension services to women has been problematic. Not only are most extension agents men, but the programmes themselves have been designed primarily for male-dominated activities. As a result, many of these programmes are no longer adapted to reality. Programmes designed with a gender approach are more likely to be effective; they require a combination of research, recruitment of women extension agents, and training of male extension workers to be gender-sensitive.

46. Addressing rural poverty also implies recognizing the importance of non-agricultural work in rural areas. Many non-farm occupations and enterprises are particularly suited to women, including small-scale enterprises in food and beverage processing, handicrafts and petty trading. Support for these also requires efforts to provide access to the factors of production, including especially, credit technological information and marketing.

47. Assured health services, including family planning, for rural women, who may be particularly at risk as a result of maternity, need to be part of any poverty eradication programme in rural areas. Many of these services have been reduced as a result of restructuring and, in other cases, there have been gender effects such as, for example, when the introduction of fees has led to a relatively lower level of immunization for girls than for boys.

48. Migration to urban areas has been one consequence of continued rural poverty. While in some countries this migration has been predominately male, in others women have migrated in greater proportion, particularly where economic growth is higher. There have been some reciprocal benefits from this migration: remittances of urban migrants can help alleviate rural poverty, and care for the children of migrants by relatives in the rural areas relieves some of the burden on urban dwellers.

49. Urban poverty itself is an increasingly important issue, not only because urban populations are growing dramatically in the developing world, but also because the nature of and solutions to urban poverty are different. Urban life is based on a cash economy, which sharpens the effects of poverty by making households more vulnerable to price changes. Public services are more critical to well-being in urban areas and when access to them is lacking, poverty can be particularly acute. For recent migrants, there is a need to learn to deal with a new environment. Highest rates of urban growth are expected in Africa and Asia. Urban populations are typically young, with high proportions under 15 years of age and consequent implications for providing health and education facilities.

50. There are gender dimensions to the organization of urban space and housing, particularly since women are more likely to work outside the home. The relative location of workplace and home is important in terms of the ability of women to balance productive and reproductive tasks that are not fully shared. Also important is the provision of infrastructure, especially potable water, since water provision, even in urban areas, tends to be a female responsibility.

51. Health in urban areas has gender dimensions in terms of the effects of environmental degradation and often violent living conditions, the spread of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and

other infectious diseases, and occupational health issues that are gender specific. The stresses of urban life can be more acute for women given their multiple tasks. Of particular concern is an increasing trend towards early pregnancies among urban adolescent girls, since their long-term consequences can include significant reduction in opportunities. Because of the complexity of the services that need to be provided, the delivery of urban health programmes to women should be seen in a holistic manner.

52. In dealing with poverty, whether urban or rural, there are different roles for different actors in the process. Although there has been a tendency to de-emphasize the role of the State in the economy through privatization and other measures, the State still plays a critical role. Its function is to raise, allocate and reorganize public resources for the good of society as a whole and to create the legal and normative enabling environment for development. How the role is played depends on the priorities set by the State, which, in many countries, has not included the type of public investment and incentives that might address poverty. The State, however, can provide the normative basis for change, as reflected in laws and programmes, can increase the access of women to productive resources and can act to help provide equal opportunities. This can be reinforced by community and other non-governmental organizations.

53. Women have considerably less influence than men on the priorities set for public action. The market, in contrast, responds to a multiplicity of individual choices, where influence is a function of resources. Women have less influence in the market because they do not have the same control over their labour as men and they face structural limitations on access to other means of production.

54. The conclusion is to use public action, by the State and by organizations, to extend the entitlements of the poor and increase their endowments so that they can be empowered to improve their own situations. As the less empowered of the poor, when entitlements are extended to women the effect in terms of poverty eradication is particularly great. This requires of women to take advantage of their rights and responsibilities as citizens to make use of the State.

Productive employment

55. One of the greatest economic changes over the past decade has been the rapid influx of women into the paid labour force and the emerging general patterns of employment, which are more like those typical for women than for men. Productive employment by women is also a critical factor in the eradication of poverty, both at the household level and for national economies. The employment of women relative to men is increasing, as are their qualifications, but it is underpaid, poorly regulated and has a short-term perspective.

56. Globally, over one third of all women aged 15 years and older are in the formal labour force, although there are conspicuous regional differences. Female economic activity has increased over the past two decades in almost all regions, and if under-reported activity in the informal sector were to be counted the proportion would be even higher. The greatest growth in employment

/...

is in manufacturing and services. There has also been growth in the proportion of women in the category of technical and professional workers. However, although there has been an upward trend in the proportion of women in managerial and administrative categories, few women have reached the top ranks of corporate management.

57. Information on the exact extent of the economic participation of women is still uneven, partly because of the way participation is defined and partly because of under-counting of unpaid work and work in the informal sector. It is therefore likely that the economic participation of women is much higher than official statistics show.

58. The entry of women into the labour force is a function of both economic necessity and a desire to exercise their right to work. It has been abetted by a trend towards more flexible working patterns and practices in response to competitive pressures. This has resulted in "atypical" or "non-standard" modes of work, such as part-time and temporary work, outwork and homework, which have been more accepted by women in the light of their family responsibilities. To some extent, this reflected a proliferation of low-income jobs and a decline of higher paid employment which had been the domain of men. Consequently, a notable rise in female employment was accompanied by a decline in male employment and a shift for men towards part-time and other atypical forms of employment. However, women continue, on average, to earn less than men, a situation that is only partially attributable to job differences.

59. Evidence, particularly from the economies in transition, suggests that the entry of women into the labour force is now a permanent feature and that, rather than considering themselves as a reserve labour force, they want to remain at work because of preference. This has made the transition to market economies in those countries particularly difficult for women, who have experienced relatively higher rates of unemployment than men. In the Asia and Pacific region, women have provided the bulk of growth in the labour force in countries with export-oriented industrialization.

60. Technological change is a major factor in the employment of women. In the past, women workers tended to be displaced when cheap labour was replaced by technology. Whether this will continue in the future is an unanswered question. In manufacturing when the purpose of technology is to replace labour-intensive work, female industrial workers can be the group most affected. However, when productivity improvements are the motive, women are frequently beneficiaries. Given skill upgrading, introduction of technology can have positive effects on women by making a qualitative change in the nature of the work. Some information technologies have the effect, as a result of globalization, of creating employment in developing countries through such clerical tasks as remote data-entry. It can also lead to atypical patterns of employment, including homework, and divide the labour force between a highly skilled, stable, core staff and peripheral workers who can be taken on or let go quickly. The group into which women will fall will depend on whether they are able to acquire the requisite skills.

61. The introduction of new technologies to agriculture, likewise, can have either positive or negative effects. The immediate effect of the introduction

of high-yielding varieties of grain, for example, especially in Asia, was to generate employment for women, because tasks like sowing seeds, weeding and harvesting had been traditionally performed by women. Over the longer term, the introduction of other technologies has tended to replace women's labour. Some evidence suggests that the development of appropriate technology for tasks now performed by women is a means to their empowerment.

62. A new global study of women in the manufacturing sector by UNIDO, summarized in the Survey, demonstrates that the participation rate of women in that sector has increased faster than that of men. It suggests, however, that there are many patterns and identifiable groups of countries fitting them. Moreover, women are concentrated in the lower end of the spectrum; few are involved in administrative and management functions. In countries having export-oriented industries there appears to be a preference for hiring women workers, at least partly because of their lower cost or willingness to work on a subcontracting or outwork basis. When there is stagnation in the large enterprises in the modern sector, new job opportunities are often found in labour-intensive micro- or small-scale industries.

63. Female employment in manufacturing, as is the case with employment generally, is also conditioned by the socio-cultural norms about their public participation and whether their employment is given the same value as that of men.

64. In each of 12 country groups identified, ranging from industrialized countries with a high concentration of women in the tertiary sector through least developed countries with a traditional socio-economic role for women, there are specific challenges and policies to meet them.

65. One consequence of massive unemployment and underemployment in many developing countries has been an increasing internal and international migration of women to obtain employment. For sending countries, the remittances of women workers can be significant. For receiving countries, the migrant workers provide labour in areas where national supply is inadequate. The conditions under which migration occurs are not always favourable to women, and strategies, such as training and orientation to national conditions, have been identified to improve the situation of female migrants.

66. The increase in the rates of economic activity of women has often been accompanied by a decrease in the quality of working conditions. Some of the factors involved in the qualitative issues are outlined below. One is whether work takes place in the public, the formal private or the informal sector. Work in the public sector, with generally non-discriminatory rules, provides better protection for employees. This sector has been shrinking as a result of restructuring. Work in developing countries is typically in agriculture or the informal sector, where conditions are unregulated and often precarious.

67. In industrialized countries, much of the growth in the participation of women in the labour force has been accounted for by part-time work. As noted, this atypical type of employment is becoming common in developing countries as well. The issue is how to provide social protection, career development and employment security to these part-time workers.

68. There is also continued evidence of occupational segregation, leading to lower pay and limited occupational mobility. This, however, is partly offset by the growing economic importance of some of the fields in which women have traditionally been represented. There is, even here, evidence of wage differentials that cannot be explained solely by occupation, regardless of sector.

69. While there has been an increase in the understanding that social protection needs to be accorded to workers, particularly in terms of services such as child care that enable women and men to reconcile their productive and reproductive roles, this has been affected by problems of global restructuring, which reduced the likelihood that these facilities would be provided either by the State or by the enterprises and reduced the incentives for men to share in this role.

70. There has been an increase in women members in trade unions, but this lags behind women's numbers in the labour force and women are not well represented in trade union leadership or in associations of employers. Organizing in associations and unions has been found to strengthen the bargaining power of women and protect their interests where it occurs.

Women and economic decision-making

71. The increase in the importance of women in the formal economy, the recognition of their role in eradicating poverty, and the changes that have already occurred in women's access to education and other human resources development assets, have not yet been reflected in their participation in economic decision-making. It is clear that these changes in the underlying structure of the economy will not automatically lead to changes in decision-making processes or structures.

72. Economic decision makers include persons occupying a wide variety of positions whose decisions can determine the direction of economic policy in both long-term and immediate ways. They include top executives of national public bodies dealing with economic matters; senior managers of public and private enterprises at the national and international levels; entrepreneurs at various levels; senior managers of international and regional financial institutions; and members of the boards of trade unions and professional and business organizations.

73. While data exist on women in management occupations, there are no regular global statistics on the proportion of women among economic decision makers. There are many reasons why there should be more women in top decision-making positions, ranging from women's equal rights to such positions, the growing proportion of women in the labour force, the increasing proportion of women among persons in technical, professional, administrative and management occupations, and the advantage to the economy from drawing on the skills and abilities of women, derived from their experience.

74. In terms of the general category of managers, women hold between 10 and 30 per cent of what ILO classifies as management positions, but there are less than 5 per cent in top management. In the 1,000 largest non-United States of

America corporations, only 1 per cent of top management positions are filled by women, and in the 1,000 largest United States corporations the figure is only 8 per cent, mostly in second-level top management. These corporations comprise the bulk of transnational business. A similar situation is found in the boards of trade unions and the boards of professional and employers' organizations.

75. In government, where only 6 per cent of ministerial positions in 1993 were held by women, women held an even lower proportion of top posts dealing with the economy. While there was a larger percentage of women in sub-ministerial level decision-making posts, again the proportion was lower in those dealing with the economy. The situation is no different for international economic decision-making. Neither the United Nations, the specialized agencies, the Bretton Woods institutions nor the regional development banks have many women in decision-making positions, either in government delegations or in the secretariats themselves.

76. Changes in the composition of third-level students of law, business, science and technology, where women are achieving parity in most regions, should mean that the pool from which the next generation of economic decision makers is drawn will contain as many women as men.

77. Overall, there is a very slow rate of increase in the proportion of women in top decision-making, regardless of the level of development of the country. This contrasts with the growth in the number of women employed and the significant increase of women among entrepreneurs. This, coupled with the increase in young women with appropriate training, could lead to an increase in women in economic decision-making at a far faster rate than heretofore, if structural obstacles that are gender-based can be surmounted.

78. One basic obstacle is the lack of assured, upward career paths for women in corporate structures, whether public or private, starting with recruitment and extending through career development. Recruitment of women to corporate careers has been slow, in part because women were considered less desirable in them owing to their presumed reproductive role and the fact that many women chose education in fields that did not lead to recruitment for economic management.

79. Once recruited, women have had to deal with corporate cultures that, consciously or not, are male-oriented. Ranging from work-hour norms, through networks, through achievement criteria based on perceptions and stereotyped expectations, reinforced by administrative procedures, these corporate cultures have tended to create obstacles to the promotion of women. Taken together, the factors form a "glass ceiling", an invisible but impassable barrier that prevents women from rising professionally upward, regardless of their education and experience. Even if women manage to reach higher levels of management, their minority status can produce unnecessary stresses that make mobility both difficult and, occasionally, undesired.

80. Many women, rather than seeking careers in larger corporations, are choosing to become entrepreneurs, owning or running small and medium-sized modern enterprises. While the statistics on the number of entrepreneurs are not always comparable, over time statistics have shown that the gap between women and men in the category has been diminishing over the past 20 years. The

enterprises created are different from those owned by men, and centre on delivery of modern services and other growth sectors.

81. This development has been facilitated by the increase in educational access and the growth in sectors where women's gender-derived skills in communication, multi-tasking and non-hierarchical decision-making are particularly important. At the same time, these enterprises face special obstacles in terms of obtaining financial resources, access to management training and technical assistance, building networks and not having social support facilities.

82. Many of these factors come together in terms of trade development, as women seek to take advantage of trade-driven growth. Women entrepreneurship finds expression at all levels of trade, but must work against the variety of constraints already noted. A number of steps are being taken to create an enabling environment that will permit women to compete fully in trade development. The Women in Trade Development programme of ITC involves a series of interventions defined to help create that environment.

Promoting the effective participation of women in development

83. The current role of women in development is the result of trends unleashed by changes in the enabling environment coupled with the nature of global economic change. Market forces and the policy choices underlying them have propelled women into a decisive position in much of the global and national economy. However, the changes have not been fast enough, are not sufficiently secure and are not occurring everywhere. To equalize and accelerate the process, policies should be adopted by Governments, by enterprises and by women themselves to address the main obstacles.

84. It is increasingly clear that gender should be taken into account in global and national policy-making. Developments over the past decade, especially global economic restructuring, have proven that economic change is not gender neutral. Yet there is little evidence that economic policy makers have considered gender as a key variable in their policy-making. Gender could be taken into account by such means as:

(a) Examining the gender-related employment effects of policies such as export promotion or technological change;

(b) Ensuring that the transition to a flexible market does not merely lead to low wages as a proxy for productivity, but rather develops the skills of workers to provide a transition to industries built on skilled workforces with productivity based on output;

(c) Taking into account when defining economic policies the types of employment that both men and women will be able to undertake, giving appropriate value to sharing of reproductive roles between women and men.

85. In that poverty reflects a failure of development, it leads to a cycle that undermines future development and has significant gender dimensions. It is obvious that these gender dimensions should be addressed. A major dimension of poverty is that men and women experience poverty differently at the level of the

household and, therefore, by aggregation in the economy as a whole. It follows that women constitute the most significant entry-point for poverty-alleviation strategies; women are less the problem of poverty than the basis for its solution. Not having benefited in the past from opportunities that would have built up their endowments because programmes were directed primarily towards men, yet charged in reality with the responsibility for coping with lack of consumption, women have been denied the necessary entitlements to lift themselves and their families from poverty. This could be addressed by a range of actions which will increase women's endowments and entitlements. Actions might include:

(a) Ensuring equal access to education by girls, especially from poor families and in rural areas, through programmes that support their enrolment and retention in schools;

(b) Providing adult women with training and non-formal education related to their work to help compensate for past lack of educational opportunity;

(c) Changing laws and regulations to give women equal access to productive resources and gainful employment, including, especially for poor rural women, land and credit;

(d) Ensuring that new employment opportunities are designed to meet both need for income and performance of family responsibilities;

(e) Increasing access for women, especially in rural areas, to land and credit in their own right;

(f) Promoting community and public services that would allow women and men, especially heads of single-parent households, to accommodate their need to earn income with the need to maintain the family, including, especially, child and dependent care;

(g) Encouraging the development of organizations of women, at the community level, that can help empower poor women.

86. Eradicating poverty means ensuring that women can be productively employed on equal terms. The growing incidence of the globalization of markets, production and finance, technological transformation, economic restructuring, transition to market economies, and changes in work organizations and production processes, as well as demographic trends, will continue to create opportunities and risks for women workers. They pose new challenges for their social protection, working conditions, appropriate legislative framework and enforcement and active labour-market policies. They provide challenges to the roles of Governments, employers, the trade unions and the other relevant institutions and actors at the national, regional and international levels in the promotion of gender equality in the world of work.

87. An integrated approach to employment could involve a number of actions, such as:

(a) Creating a legislative framework that enables equal participation, including reforms of labour codes, so that men and women are treated equally and all appropriate economic activity is covered;

(b) Taking steps to enforce equality norms by establishing institutions to supervise conditions in both the public and the private sectors, to provide accessible recourse to individuals and to ensure certain sanctions for violation of norms;

(c) Providing training and retraining to women workers to facilitate their skill acquisition and upgrade their skills, especially for workers in sectors undergoing structural change;

(d) Addressing occupational stereotyping through the educational and training systems in schools, enterprises, unions and the media;

(e) Taking steps to ensure that jobs are classified and remunerated according to the principle of equal pay for work of equal value, including appropriate legislation;

(f) Establishing the norm that family responsibility should be shared by men and women alike and should be supported by public and private institutions, creating "family friendly" societies;

(g) Creating public services and encouraging private provision of child and dependent care as part of the work environment;

(h) Studying new methods of permitting men and women to mesh careers with family commitment through flexible work schedules, location and the possibility of part-time work with associated social security benefits;

(i) Taking steps to address the occupational health and safety of women reflected in unsafe work environments and sexual harassment;

(j) Providing training and access to resources for self-employment and entrepreneurship;

(k) Encouraging the development of the participation of women at all levels in existing organizations such as trade unions and other workers' and employers' organizations, and formation of new organizations, especially of those in atypical jobs;

(l) Implementing affirmative action programmes in those areas where there are present day consequences of past discrimination, especially in terms of access to decision-making;

(m) Increasing the amount of research and data collection on gender factors in employment.

88. To achieve these ends, a variety of actors must be involved. The Government has a responsibility to be a model employer, but, more important, it has the role of promoting the kinds of public laws and policies that will help

provide a more gender-responsive world of work but will not inhibit the efficiency of the market. Employers and trade unions have the responsibility, through collective bargaining, to ensure that employment practices provide an environment in which women and men can reconcile productive and reproductive roles. Non-governmental organizations and national women's machineries can provide support to the promotion of equality between men and women through supporting innovative programmes and monitoring developments.

89. Policies may have to take into account several major trends that pose new challenges for women in the world of work. The changing nature of the formal sector in the light of global economic restructuring will make growing demands on women to adjust to new opportunities as national economies shift in emphasis to greater competitiveness and efficiency. In central and eastern Europe, the shift from a public, full-employment economy to a privatized economy makes particular demands on women to break into new market-oriented occupations. The retrenchment of the public sector, with the unemployment of many who used to work in that sector, requires adjustment.

90. A second trend is the emergence of an intermediate sector between the formal sector of large enterprises and the increasingly crowded informal sector. This sector, made up of small and medium-sized enterprises, provides opportunities for women if they can obtain the skills, experience, financing and networking necessary to make them profitable.

91. A third trend is the growth of the informal sector itself, blurring the lines between the household and the enterprise with the growth of subcontracting, home-based work and self-employment. This will require a form of regulation and social protection if the growth is not to be accompanied by exploitation.

92. A final trend is the growth in flexibility and deregulation in the economy, which, on the positive side, can provide better opportunities to balance productive and reproductive roles but which, on the negative side, could lead to a lack of social protection as well as a lessened quality and security of employment. Which side prevails will depend on the policies and practices adopted.

93. Finally, unless policies and programmes are implemented to increase the participation of women in economic decision-making, the opportunities to address poverty and improve the world of work are unlikely to be translated into reality. Particular responsibility for creation of opportunities rests with the public sector, which could consider a range of actions, such as:

(a) Ensuring that appropriate third-level education opportunities are open to both women and men to equip them for managerial and entrepreneurial careers;

(b) Implementing and enforcing legislation on equal employment opportunities, including preventing sexual harassment;

(c) Encouraging private sector bodies to accelerate the move of women to executive positions through monitoring, information dissemination and establishment of voluntary norms;

(d) Furthering networking among women executives, including sharing of information on developments and opportunities;

(e) Promoting the establishment of gender-neutral recruitment and promotion policies by corporations, as well as the public sector, through sensitization and models;

(f) Setting up in the public sector and encouraging in the private sector the norm of dual-career managerial couples, including appropriate policies for parental leave, job-sharing and flexible career patterns;

(g) Encouraging more women to undertake entrepreneurship, by developing an integrated approach to expedite financing, technical assistance services, information, training and counselling.

Notes

1/ World Survey on the Role of Women in Development (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.3).

2/ 1980 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.89.IV.2).

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/379
14 September 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
Item 65 (c) of the provisional agenda*

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION: STATUS OF MULTILATERAL DISARMAMENT AGREEMENTS

Report of the Secretary-General

1. By its resolution 36/92 H of 9 December 1981, the General Assembly, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General to prepare for each regular session of the Assembly a composite table of signatories of and parties to multilateral disarmament agreements with a view to enabling the Assembly to take up the questions of their status, if it deemed it appropriate.

2. Pursuant to that resolution, the Secretary-General submits in the annex to the present report an updated composite table of signatories of and parties to multilateral disarmament agreements, as reported by the depositaries of those agreements, as at 31 July 1994. 1/

---

* A/49/150.

Notes

1/ The information contained in the present report reproduces data furnished by the Secretary-General where he is the depositary of the treaties or agreements concerned and by those Governments which are depositaries in other cases. Inclusion of information as to the treaties and agreements of which the Secretary-General is not the depositary is as reported by the respective depositaries. The Secretary-General is the depositary of: (a) the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques; (b) the Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies; (c) the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects; and (d) the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction.

Canada and Hungary are depositaries of the Treaty on Open Skies.

France is the depositary of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare.

Mexico is the depositary of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco).

The Netherlands is the depositary of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE Treaty).

The Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America are depositaries of: (a) the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water; (b) the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies; (c) the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons; (d) the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof; and (e) the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction.

The United States of America is the depositary of the Antarctic Treaty.

The Secretary-General of the South Pacific Forum Secretariat is the depositary of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Rarotonga).

ANNEX

Composite table of signatories of and parties to multilateral disarmament agreements as at 31 July 1994, as reported by depositaries

(s) signed, (r) ratified (including accessions and successions)

Signatory or Party reported	Geneva Protocol	Antarctic Treaty	Partial Test Ban	Outer Space	Treaty of Tlatelolco a/	NPT	Sea Bed	BW Convention	ENMOD	Colonial Bodies	Inhumane Weapons b/	Remnants c/	CFE Treaty	Open Skies	Chemical Weapons
Afghanistan	r		s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	r		s				s
Albania	r					r		r							s r
Algeria	r		s	r			r		r						r
Andorra															
Angola	r														
Antigua and Barbuda	r		r	r	s r	r	r		r						
Argentina	r	s r	s r	s r	s r		s r	s r	r		s				s
Armenia			r			r		r					r		s
Australia	r	s r	s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s r	r	s r	s r			s r
Austria	s r	r	s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	r	s r	s r				s
Azerbaijan						r							r		s
Bahamas			r	r	s r	r	r	r							s
Bahrain	r					r		r							s
Bangladesh	r		r	r		r		r	r						s
Barbados	r			r	s r	s r	r	s							
Belarus			s r	s r		r	s r	s r	s r		s r		r	s	s
Belgium	s r	s r	s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s r		r	s r		s	s
Belize					s	r		r							
Benin	r		s r	r		s r	s r	s r	s r		r (not III)				s
Bhutan	r		r			r		r							
Bolivia	r		s r	s	s r	s r	s	s r	s						s
Bosnia and Herzegovina											r				

Signatory or Party reported	Geneva Protocol	Antarctic Treaty	Partial Test Ban	Outer Space	Treaty of Tlatelolco a/	NPT	Sea Bed	BW Convention	ENMOD	Celestial Bodies	Inhumane Weapons b/	Rarotonga c/	CFE Treaty	Open Skies	Chemical Weapons
Botswana			r	s		s r	s r	s r							
Brazil	s r	r	s r	s r	s r		s r	s r	s r						s
Brunei Darussalam						r		r							s
Bulgaria	s r	r	s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s r		s r		s r	s r	s
Burkina Faso	r		s	s r		s r		r							s
Burundi			s	s		r	s	s							s
Cambodia	r					r	s	s r							s
Cameroon	r		s	s		s r	s								s
Canada	s r	r	s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s r		s r		s r	s r	s
Cape Verde	r		r			r	r	r	r						s
Central African Republic	r		r	s		r	s r	s							s
Chad			s r			s r									
Chile	s r	s r	s r	s r	s r			s r	r	s r					s
China	r	r		r	s r (A.P.II)	r	r	r			s r	s r (P.2 and 3) c/			s
Colombia		r	s r	s	s r	s r	s	s r							s
Comoros															s
Congo						r	r	r							s
Cook Islands												s r			s r
Costa Rica			s r		s r	s r	s	s r							s
Côte d'Ivoire	r		s r			s r	r	s							s
Croatia			r			r		r			r				s
Cuba	r	r		r			r	s r	s r		s r				s
Cyprus	r		s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s r		r				s
Czech Republic		r	r	r		r	r	r	r		r		r	r	s
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	r	r				r		r	r						
Denmark	s r	r	s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s r		s r		s r	s r	s

/...

Signatory or Party reported	Geneva Protocol	Antarctic Treaty	Partial Test Ban	Outer Space	Treaty of Tlatelolco a/	NPT	Sea Bed	BW Convention	ENMOD	Celestial Bodies	Inhumane Weapons b/	Rarotonga c/	CFE Treaty	Open Skies	Chemical Weapons
Djibouti															•
Dominica					• r	r			r						•
Dominican Republic	r		• r	• r	• r	• r	• r	• r							•
Ecuador	r	r	• r	• r	• r	• r		• r			• r				•
Egypt	• r		• r	• r		• r		•	r		•				
El Salvador	•		• r	• r	• r	• r		• r							•
Equatorial Guinea	r		r	r		r	•	r							•
Eritrea															
Estonia	r					r		r							•
Ethiopia	• r		•	•		• r	• r	• r	•						•
Fiji	r		r	r		r		• r				• r			• r
Finland	• r	r	• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	• r		• r				•
France	• r	• r		• r	• r (A.P. I and III)	r		r		•	• r (I and II)		• r	• r	•
Gabon			• r			r		•							•
Gambia	r		r	•		• r	•	•							•
Georgia						r							r	•	•
Germany	• r	r	• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	• r		• r		• r	• r	•
Ghana	r		• r	•		• r	• r	• r	• r						•
Greece	• r	r	• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	r		• r		• r	• r	•
Grenada	r				• r	r		r							
Guatemala	r	r	• r		• r	• r	•	• r	r	•	r				•
Guinea						r	•								•
Guinea-Bissau	r		r	r		r	r	r							•
Guyana				•		r		•							•
Haiti			•	•	• r	• r		•							•
Holy See	r			•		r			•						•

Signatory or Party reported	Geneva Protocol	Antarctic Treaty	Partial Test Ban	Outer Space	Treaty of Tlatelolco [1]	NPT	Sea Bed	BW Convention	ENMOD	Celestial Bodies	Inhumane Weapons [2]	Revenue [3]	CFE Treaty	Open Skies	Chemical Weapons
Honduras			s r	s	s r	s r	s	s r							s
Hungary	r	r	s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s r		s r		s r	s r	s
Iceland	r		s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s		s		s r	s	s
India	s r	r	s r	s r			r	s r	s r	s	s r				s
Indonesia	r		s r	s		s r		s r							s
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	r		s r	s		s r	s r	s r	s						s
Iraq	r		s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s						
Ireland	r		s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s r		s				s
Israel	r		s r	s r											s
Italy	s r	r	s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s r		s		s r	s	s
Jamaica	r		s r	s r	s r	s r	s r	r							
Japan	s r	s r	s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	r		s r				s
Jordan	r		s r	s		s r	s r	s r							
Kazakhstan						r									s
Kenya	r		r	r		s r		r					r		s
Kiribati						r						s r			
Kuwait	r		s r	r		s r		s r	r						s
Kyrgyzstan						r								s	s
Lao People's Democratic Republic	r		s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s r		r				s
Latvia	r					r	r				r				s
Lebanon	r		s r	s r		s r	s	s r	s						
Lesotho	r			s		s r	s r	s r							
Liberia	r		s r			s r	s	s	s						s
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	r		s r	r		s r	r	r			s r				
Liechtenstein	r					r	r	r							s
Lithuania	r					r									s

/...

Signatory or Party reported	Geneva Protocol	Antarctic Treaty	Partial Test Ban	Outer Space	Treaty of Tlatelolco a/	NPT	Sea Bed	BW Convention	ENMOD	Celestial Bodies	Inhumane Weapons b/	Rarotonga c/	CFE Treaty	Open Skies	Chemical Weapons
Luxembourg	• r		• r	•		• r	• r	• r	•		•		• r	•	•
Madagascar	r		• r	r		• r	•	•							•
Malawi	r		r			r		•	r						•
Malaysia	r		• r	•		• r	• r	• r							•
Maldives	r					• r		r							• r
Mali			•	r		• r	•	•							•
Malta	r		r			• r	• r	• r							•
Marshall Islands															•
Mauritania			• r			r									•
Mauritius	r		r	r		• r	• r	• r	r						• r
Mexico	r		• r	• r	• r	• r	r	• r		r	• r				•
Micronesia (Federated States of)															•
Monaco	r														•
Mongolia	r		• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	• r		• r				•
Morocco	r		• r	r		• r	• r	•	•	• r	•				•
Mozambique						r									
Myanmar			• r	• r		r	•	•							•
Namibia						r									•
Nauru						r						• r			•
Nepal	r		• r	• r		• r	• r	•							•
Netherlands	• r	r	• r	• r	• r (A.P.I)	• r	• r	• r	• r	• r	• r		• r	•	•
New Zealand	r	• r	• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	r		• r	• r			•
Nicaragua	• r		• r	•	• r	• r	• r	• r	•		•				•
Niger	r		• r	• r		r	• r	• r	r		r				•
Nigeria	r		• r	r		• r		• r			•				•
Niue												• r			

/...

Signatory or Party reported	Geneva Protocol	Antarctic Treaty	Partial Test Ban	Outer Space	Treaty of Tlatelolco 1/	NPT	Sea Bed	BW Convention	ENMOD	Celestial Bodies	Inhumane Weapons 2/	Rarotonga 3/	CFE Treaty	Open Skies	Chemical Weapons
Norway	• r	• r	• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	• r		• r		• r	• r	• r
Oman								r							•
Pakistan	r		• r	• r				• r	r	r	• r				•
Panama	r		• r	•	• r	• r	• r	• r							•
Papua New Guinea	r	r	r	r		r		r	r			• r			•
Paraguay	r		•		• r	• r	•	r							•
Peru	r	r	• r	• r	• r	• r		• r		•					•
Philippines	r		• r	•		• r	r	• r		• r	•				•
Poland	• r	r	• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	• r		• r		• r	•	•
Portugal	• r		•			r	r	• r	•		•		• r	•	•
Qatar	r					r	r	• r							•
Republic of Korea	r	r	• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	r						•
Republic of Moldova													r		•
Romania	• r	r	• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	• r	•	•		• r	•	•
Russian Federation	r	• r	• r	• r	• r (A.P.II)	• r	• r	• r	• r		• r	• r (P.2 and 3)	• r	•	•
Rwanda	r		• r	•		r	• r	• r							•
Saint Kitts and Nevis	r				•	r		r							•
Saint Lucia	r				•	r		r	r						•
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines					• r	r									•
Samoa			• r			r						• r			•
San Marino			• r	• r		• r		• r							•
Sao Tome and Principe						r	r	r	r						
Saudi Arabia	r			r		r	• r	• r							•
Senegal	r		• r			• r	•	• r							•

/...

Signatory or Party reported	Geneva Protocol	Antarctic Treaty	Partial Test Ban	Outer Space	Treaty of Tlatelolco a/	NPT	Sea Bed	BW Convention	ENMOD	Celestial Bodies	Inhumane Weapons b/	Rarotonga c/	CFE Treaty	Open Skies	Chemical Weapons
Seychelles			r	r		r	r	r							• r
Sierra Leone	r		• r	• r		r	•	• r	•		•				•
Singapore			r	r		• r	• r	• r							•
Slovakia	r	r	r	r		r	r	r	r		r		r	r	•
Slovenia			r			r	r	r			r				•
Solomon Islands	r					r	r	r	r			• r			
Somalia			•	•		• r		•							
South Africa	r	• r	r	• r		r	• r	• r							•
Spain	• r	r	• r	r		r	r	• r	• r		• r		• r	• r	•
Sri Lanka	r		• r	• r		• r		• r	• r						•
Sudan	r		• r			• r	•				•				
Suriname			r		• r	r		r							
Swaziland	r		r			• r	• r	r							•
Sweden	• r	r	• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	r		• r				• r
Switzerland	• r	r	• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	r		• r				•
Syrian Arab Republic	r		• r	r		• r		•	•						
Tajikistan															•
Thailand	• r		• r	• r		r		• r							•
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia															
Togo	r		• r	• r		• r	• r	• r			•				•
Tonga	r		r	r		r		r							
Trinidad and Tobago	r		• r	•	• r	• r									
Tunisia	r		• r	• r		• r	• r	• r	• r		r				•

Signatory or Party reported	Geneva Protocol	Antarctic Treaty	Partial Test Ban	Outer Space	Treaty of Tlatelolco a/	NPT	Sea Bed	BW Convention	ENMOD	Celestial Bodies	Inhumane Weapons b/	Rarotonga c/	CFE Treaty	Open Skies	Chemical Weapons
Turkey	s r		s r	s r		s r	s r	s r	s		s		s r	s	s
Turkmenistan															
Tuvalu						r									s
Uganda	r		s r	r		r		r	s			s r			
Ukraine		r	s r	s r			s r	s r	s r		s r				s
United Arab Emirates								s					r	s	s
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	s r	s r	s r	s r	s r (A.P. I and III)	s r	s r	s r	s r		s		s r	s r	s
United Republic of Tanzania	r		s r			r	s	s							
United States of America	s r	s r	s r	s r	s r (A.P. I and III)	s r	s r	s r	s r		s		s r	s r	s
Uruguay	s r	r	s r	s r	s r	s r	s	r	r	s r					s
Uzbekistan						r			r						
Vanuatu															
Venezuela	s r		s r	s r	s r	s r		s r							s
Viet Nam	r			r		r	r	r	r		s				s
Yemen	r		s r	r		s r	s r	s r	s r						s
Yugoslavia	s r		s r	s		s r	s r	s r			s r				
Zaire			s r	s		s r		s r	s						
Zambia			r	r		r	r								s
Zimbabwe						r		r							s

a/ A.P. means Additional Protocol to the Treaty of Tlatelolco.

b/ Protocols I, II and III have been accepted except where noted otherwise.

c/ P. means Protocol to the Treaty of Rarotonga.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/380
13 September 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Item 102 of the provisional agenda*

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

QUESTIONS RELATING TO REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS AND HUMANITARIAN QUESTIONS

Emergency international assistance to refugees and displaced persons in Azerbaijan

Report of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

	Paragraphs	Page
INTRODUCTION	1	3
I. BACKGROUND	2 - 14	3
A. Military conflict and economic deterioration	2 - 7	3
B. Affected populations	8 - 14	4
II. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE EFFORTS	15 - 35	5
A. Assessment of overall requirements	15 - 25	5
B. Resource mobilization	26 - 28	6
C. Organizational arrangements and logistics	29 - 35	7

* A/49/150.

CONTENTS (continued)

		Paragraphs	Page
III.	SECTORAL ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM	36 - 76	8
	A. Food-supply situation and food aid	36 - 46	8
	B. Health	47 - 57	9
	C. Water supply and sanitation	58 - 59	10
	D. Refugee shelter, household support and protection	60 - 69	11
	E. Education	70 - 73	12
	F. Social sector	74	13
	G. Small business assistance	75 - 76	13
IV.	ASSISTANCE BY STATES, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	77 - 95	13
V.	OBSERVATIONS	96 - 99	15

Tables

1. United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for the Caucasus (relative to Azerbaijan): total contributions/income, by agency, as of 29 July 1994 17

2. United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for the Caucasus (relative to Azerbaijan): donor breakdown of contributions, by agency, as of 29 July 1994 18

/...

INTRODUCTION

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to resolution 48/114 of 23 March 1994, in which the General Assembly, inter alia:

(a) Urgently appealed to all States, organizations and programmes of the United Nations, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide adequate and sufficient financial, medical and material assistance to the Azerbaijani refugees and displaced persons (para. 2);

(b) Invited the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the overall situation of refugees and displaced persons in Azerbaijan and to make available his good offices as required (para. 4);

(c) Requested the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the resolution (para. 6).

I. BACKGROUND

A. Military conflict and economic deterioration

2. Since gaining independence in August 1991, Azerbaijan has experienced a marked socio-economic deterioration as a result of largely intractable problems that include military conflict, instability and a need for profound structural adjustment, while the ongoing conflict over Nagorny Karabakh has led to large-scale population movements.

3. Following an upsurge in the fighting in and around Nagorny Karabakh in April 1994, peace efforts intensified during May and June 1994 in an attempt to bring an end to the region's conflicts. The Conference on Security and Cooperation (CSCE) Minsk Group and the Russian Federation have revitalized their mediatory efforts, but negotiations seem to be deadlocked.

4. Since the first influx in 1988 and during successive waves of Azerbaijani refugees and displaced persons, the country has been experiencing great difficulty in coping with the ever increasing needs of that destitute population. In addition, economic dislocation as a result of recent regional changes has exacerbated the situation, causing the Government of Azerbaijan to rely heavily on international support. The already overstretched institutional capacity of the Government to deal with the problem of refugees and displaced people needs to be supplemented by cohesive and concerted humanitarian intervention.

5. Conflict has also resulted in substantial damage to the infrastructure and loss of agricultural land and other resources. Although revenue from the oil industry and the absence of a fuel shortage enable the authorities to provide some grain supplies, foreign exchange and budget constraints remain severe and limit the Government's capacity to import essential supplies, including other basic foodstuffs.

6. There has also been much disruption through the loss of trade with other republics of the former USSR and the war in Nagorny Karabakh. Supply and market links have been disrupted with the collapse of interrepublic trade and the contraction of the military industry.

7. Since 1988 production has fallen drastically, personal incomes have decreased rapidly and unemployment has increased sharply. Annual inflation reached 2,000 per cent in 1993 but subsided somewhat in 1994. Fuel prices in real terms have tripled along with transport costs and have had a negative impact on all sectors of the economy. Government debt increased sharply in 1993 and if the war in Nagorny Karabakh continues, economic conditions will deteriorate even further.

B. Affected populations

8. The number of refugees to date, mostly originating from Armenia, are reported to total 250,000, while a further 658,000 people are estimated to be internally displaced. Of the latter, only 10 per cent are living in organized camps; the rest are housed either in public buildings, shelters provided by the Government or with host families. In addition, the most recent Armenian offensive has displaced another 50,000 persons, mostly from the Terter area.

9. Thus, close to a million refugees and displaced persons are now crammed into the houses of relatives, schools, collective farms, tents and thousands of makeshift shelters across Azerbaijan. Many of them live under the most difficult conditions, leaving them entirely dependent on outside help. Given the lack of safe water and sanitation facilities, cases of hepatitis A, measles, diphtheria and poliomyelitis have increased.

10. The inadequate living conditions of refugees and displaced families - characterized by poor sanitation and ignorance of the measures that prevent the spread of disease - make them more vulnerable to disease outbreaks and make it important to strengthen the health education component.

11. At present, around 200 schools country-wide are occupied by refugees and displaced persons, with the result that some 58,500 children are unable to attend school on a regular basis. The lack of paper for printing textbooks and the shortage of other school supplies are severely disrupting the learning process of many students. The situation of handicapped and displaced children in boarding schools and orphanages is particularly difficult.

12. It was determined by the World Food Programme (WFP) that some 447,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), refugees and members of most vulnerable groups were in need of relief food aid. The neediest IDPs are living in temporary shelters along roadsides or in temporary communal accommodation, such as schools, sanatoria, hostels, boarding houses, disused railway cars and other public structures. Vulnerable beneficiaries include elderly persons living alone with incomes below the minimum monthly pension as well as the institutionalized disabled, handicapped and orphans.

13. Only about 10 per cent of the total number of displaced persons live in organized camps run by the Iranian and Turkish Red Crescent Societies and the Islamic Relief Organization. During 1993, the number of camps sheltering displaced persons has increased all over Azerbaijan. The most important camps are in Imishli, Agjebedi, Saatli, Bilasuvar, Beylagan, and Sabirabad, several of which are on the Iranian border.

14. Most IDPs have little or no access to cash resources for their livelihood and largely depend on international humanitarian aid. The budgetary difficulties of the Government have severely constrained its ability to continue to support these people in need; the social safety net has virtually collapsed.

II. HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE EFFORTS

A. Assessment of overall requirements

15. The most immediate requirements of Azerbaijan are related to the impact of military conflict and economic deterioration on the situation of large segments of the population. One of the most urgent needs, therefore, is supplementary food rations for those worst affected.

16. The aggregate cereal requirement for the period April 1994-March 1995 was estimated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) at 2.3 million tons, comprising 1.1 million tons for direct human consumption, nearly 1 million tons for animal feed and 250,000 tons for other uses. Assuming an average 1994 grain harvest of 1.3 million tons in July-August, the food grain import requirement for the 12-month period beginning 1 April 1994 would be 1 million tons.

17. The Government had planned to import that quantity on a commercial basis, using credit allocations and export earnings from oil and other products. However, in view of the fall in exports and the rapid devaluation of the manat, the Government is experiencing great difficulties in meeting the minimum grain import requirement.

18. Foreign-exchange constraints will continue to severely limit the imports of other basic foodstuffs and feedgrain. In mid-June, in response to the economic crisis, the price of bread and fuel was raised sharply and will henceforth be reviewed at least on a quarterly basis. In view of the current problems, supplementary food assistance will be required for the large number of IDPs and refugees as well as for other needy groups.

19. Urgent actions continue to be required to alleviate the deteriorating situation in the health sector, including measures to reduce the increasing incidence of water-borne diseases and diphtheria and expand immunization programmes. Large amounts of essential drugs and other medical supplies, financed through donor countries, are required. Support for prostheses is also considered important in view of the large number of people injured by conflict or mines and the current lack of adequate treatment and facilities.

20. Assistance to the education sector is also critical both to enable children to return to school and to improve their learning environment. Repair of schools, the provision of temporary school classrooms, paper for the printing of textbooks and other basic school materials are required. Special attention is also needed for children in institutions, including orphanages and centres for the handicapped and disabled.

21. Since the end of July 1994, rail transport between Azerbaijan and the northern Caucasus area of the Russian Federation, which carries most of the traffic to and from Azerbaijan, has been suspended. Currently, some 2,000 wagons containing food and other supplies for Azerbaijan are being held in Chechnya; at the same time, exports are being prevented from leaving Azerbaijan.

22. There is a continued need for the provision of shelter, other non-food items and protective services for refugees and IDPs who are housed in public buildings and in hard shelters and tents, including the rehabilitation of some shelters and the provision of commodities to help them through the next winter. Income-generating activities are also required to provide opportunities for refugees, returnees and displaced persons to become self-sufficient.

23. The Government needs technical assistance and data-processing equipment to strengthen its capacities to effectively coordinate the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Similar support is required by the sectoral ministries (health, education and those involved with refugees and IDPs).

24. Due to severe constraints on the logistics capacity across the entire region of the Caucasus, support is also required for the ports and railways to ensure that the anticipated amount of relief cargo can be delivered to Azerbaijan; that should include improvements to the communications network in the region.

25. Water and sanitation systems are highly inadequate and need urgent improvements. While some short-term assistance in those sectors is being provided through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and by some non-governmental organizations, the needs of refugees and displaced persons in Azerbaijan are immense and costly.

B. Resource mobilization

26. During 1993, donor response to the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for humanitarian assistance to the Caucasus was generous but less substantial than anticipated. 1/

27. Following an inter-agency needs assessment mission led by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, a United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for the Caucasus covering the period 1 April 1994-31 March 1995 was issued. The Appeal called for US$ 29,252,373 to meet the needs of the emergency situation in Azerbaijan. As of end-July 1994, just under US$ 10.5 million had been pledged, or 35.7 per cent, creating a shortfall of almost US$ 19 million.

28. While donations in 1994 have improved, a serious shortfall remains. In an effort to ensure that the most urgent needs continue to be met, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs is currently working with humanitarian partners in the Caucasus to review priorities in the light of available donor funding. As part of the ongoing process, the draft strategy plan that was circulated at the end of May 1994 will be further revised in October 1994.

C. Organizational arrangements and logistics

29. The structure through which the United Nations system delivers relief is headed by the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator, who is also the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs. The Department of Humanitarian Affairs, acting through the United Nations representative and its coordinator in Azerbaijan, is responsible for the coordination of humanitarian assistance on the part of the United Nations system.

30. The Department Coordinator in Azerbaijan is responsible for facilitating the work of other humanitarian partners and providing a liaison role, on behalf of the Department, with the Government, non-governmental organizations and donor representatives.

31. Inter-Agency meetings chaired by the Department are held every week in Baku. The Department is expecting to have a humanitarian affairs officer in place by 1 September and is in the process of fielding an assistant humanitarian affairs officer. As an interim measure, the Department sent a humanitarian affairs officer to Baku at the beginning of August to assist its coordinator until longer-term arrangements are in place.

32. UNHCR continues to provide assistance for refugees and displaced persons. During 1994/95, a special emphasis will be placed on providing target groups with the means to promote self-sufficiency. As part of its legal and protection mandate, UNHCR will strengthen its registration mechanisms for refugees and will continue to provide refugee law training.

33. A formal agreement was reached at the end of June 1994 between the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society (ARCS) and the Iranian Red Crescent Society (IRCS) regarding the management of the camps in southern Azerbaijan, holding close to 46,000 displaced persons, under the joint responsibility of the Federation and the two Societies. The joint running of the camps is envisaged for a six-month period, during which the possibilities for transferring camp management responsibility to the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society will be explored.

34. The transport of large quantities of humanitarian assistance to Azerbaijan is a major logistical operation. Recognizing the crucial role of the regional rail network for transporting relief goods, WFP has undertaken actions aimed at strengthening the Caucasus railway system for the transport of humanitarian cargo. Air transport of relief food has only been resorted to in exceptional cases. Road routes for imports into the Caucasus countries are currently being investigated.

35. The Caucasus Logistics Advisory Unit (CLAU) was established by WFP in late 1993, with its main office in Georgia; its initiatives have been valuable in improving logistics coordination for the transport of humanitarian cargo to Azerbaijan. CLAU carried out an assessment of Baku port in April and as a result, WFP is investigating the possibility of direct shipments by rail and sea from Europe to Azerbaijan.

III. SECTORAL ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

A. Food-supply situation and food aid

36. Agricultural production in Azerbaijan has been declining since 1991 due to disruptions caused by military conflict and the associated loss of productive crop and pasture land. Current indications point to a limited recovery in food output in 1994, but livestock production is expected to contract further as a result of the shortage of animal feed.

37. Food aid to Azerbaijan, both bilateral and multilateral, is coordinated by WFP with a view to ensuring a better coverage of the affected people and to avoid overlapping and duplication of effort.

38. WFP has assessed emergency food aid requirements for the period 1 July 1994-31 March 1995 at 28,782 tons. Donors have so far pledged a total of 12,267 tons; consequently, the shortfall for the nine-month period is 16,614 tons, valued at US$ 10.3 million, including external freight, internal transport, storage and handling and management costs.

39. Over 4,000 tons of WFP-supplied emergency food aid have been delivered to Azerbaijan since operations began in late 1993. Of that amount, 2,449 tons have consisted of family food parcels. Other commodities received were 818 tons of wheat flour, 550 tons of pasta, 212 tons of vegetable oil and 200 tons of potato flakes.

40. WFP provides the overall coordination of transport and delivery of humanitarian assistance to the region. WFP has several implementing partners that carry out distributions. Most WFP food has been distributed through the Government, with smaller distributions through the Ministry of Education (to schools for handicapped children) and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Population (for single elderly people living alone).

41. Distribution of the food supplied by WFP was first undertaken in Baku and a number of provinces that were considered priorities. Food parcels were collected by beneficiaries from warehouses following registration and the issuance of vouchers by local housing authorities. In 1993, prior to the commencement of WFP food operations, UNHCR had provided limited quantities of various food items.

42. To date, supplementary food has been provided to over 116,000 families or an estimated 580,000 family members. In addition, supplementary food has been provided to more than 8,600 single persons. UNHCR has indirectly supplemented

food intake by providing vegetable seeds and agricultural implements to all displaced persons with access to land, a quick impact project that has had highly positive results.

43. Distribution to other target groups will be carried out through non-governmental organizations as implementing partners, to the extent feasible, and through government implementing agencies, such as the Ministry of Social Welfare and the Ministry of Education, particularly for institutional feeding. IFRC, CARE International, Relief International, and the local Red Crescent Society are already involved in the distribution of WFP-supplied food. WFP will continue to supervise and monitor the implementation of feeding programmes.

44. By the end of August, IFRC will finish the distribution of the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) family food parcels (for four months each) among 200,000 IDPs in the following settlements: Imishly, Saatli, Agjabedi, Sabirabad 1 and 2, Geranboy and Yevlakh.

45. Between January and July 1994, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) distributed 41,500 family food parcels to displaced people in districts close to the frontline (mainly Agdam, Terter and Bejlagan). The same beneficiaries were also assisted with non-food items - 25,000 blankets, 2,000 pieces of plastic sheeting, 256 tents and other urgently needed relief items.

46. ICRC, whose relief activities are carried out in close cooperation with IFRC and the Azerbaijan Red Crescent Society, will continue to focus on the districts close to the frontline. The specific future relief assistance of ICRC will partly depend on the activities of other humanitarian agencies.

B. Health

47. The World Health Organization (WHO) has placed a liaison officer at the Ministry of Health in Baku and is planning to accelerate the tuberculosis (TB) programme in Azerbaijan. The programme includes training courses for managers and physicians, and seeks to ensure adequate TB drug supplies, laboratory equipment and diagnosis procedures for TB. In parallel, WHO also plans to step up human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and hepatitis testing to guarantee safe blood testing and transfusions. Two nutritional surveys are also planned with the Ministry of Health before the end of the year.

48. WHO collaborates closely with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and other agencies and organizations involved in the health sector to ensure the most effective use of resources and to standardize approaches to the provision of health services and medical supplies.

49. In order to reduce the incidence of preventable diseases and better respond to the continuous increase in the number of affected children, UNICEF has concentrated its efforts in Azerbaijan in the field of immunization. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, UNICEF carried out an Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) workshop at the end of June. UNICEF will continue to provide the Ministry of Health with all basic vaccines for children

up to two years old and with syringes for vaccination. It is estimated that, following vaccination campaigns undertaken jointly by the Ministry of Health and UNICEF in December 1993, February and March 1994, 90 per cent of children under the age of two have been vaccinated.

50. UNICEF plans to assign a cold chain consultant to Azerbaijan for the second time in September 1994 to train trainers on the maintenance of compression and absorbtion refrigerators.

51. Another focus of UNICEF activities will be to provide medical kits containing medicines and disposable medical items to all paediatric institutions in Azerbaijan until the end of 1994.

52. UNICEF assistance to Azerbaijan will continue to concentrate on EPI, iodine deficiency disorders (IDD) and capacity-building, as well as on introducing new projects on breast-feeding (the baby-friendly hospital initiative), family planning, water supply, environmental sanitation, emergency rehabilitation and health education.

53. In 1993, UNICEF distributed in refugee camps high protein biscuits (10 tons) and winter clothes for children up to 5 years of age (2,000), anti-lice shampoo (5,088 bottles), and benzyl benzoate lotion (500 bottles). UNICEF also provided the Ministry of Health with children hospital kits (67 sets) and anti-diphtheria serums.

54. In the future, UNICEF also plans to undertake work in laying the basis for longer-term cooperation in child development, including research to determine the nature of the factors underlying the main health and social problems affecting children in the country.

55. UNICEF assessment teams have also undertaken a study in the health and educational sector to monitor the changing conditions of children and how they are affected by the economic, political and security situation.

56. UNHCR is providing funding to three non-governmental organizations for supplies of medicines, training and mobile medical clinic services. In the first half of 1994, more than 30,000 patients were attended to by the medical outreach programme.

57. A further area of engagement is to establish permanently staffed medical outreach posts to serve as rural clinics. Efforts are being undertaken to provide for the supply of medical hardware, such as dressing and surgical equipment, in support of hospitals, as well as to expand treatment capacity in order to provide for an increased number of patients.

C. Water supply and sanitation

58. In view of inadequate water supply facilities in terms of availability and reliability, comprehensive water system rehabilitation and construction work is under implementation, involving 15 most needy regions. Technical interventions linking water mains with distant settlements are being put in place to provide

outlying communities with potable supplies; improved water availability and quality is aimed at enhancing rural living and contributing to the overall physical well-being of the beneficiary communities. Rural and isolated settlements will particularly benefit from such improvements.

59. In addition to the provision of improved water supply, the rehabilitation of existing sewage facilities and the construction of new units (pit latrines) is being undertaken so as to enhance efforts made in the field of water supply.

D. Refugee shelter, household support and protection

60. In addressing the needs of the refugees and the displaced populations, UNHCR is focusing on a care-and-maintenance type of assistance, including the provision and replacement of household items.

61. During 1993, UNHCR provided assistance to about 300,000 out of some one million refugees and IDPs in various forms, such as clothing, shelter, domestic utensils, food and other items. The recipients are considered the most vulnerable among the refugees and displaced. From the above case-load, about 70 per cent of the refugees and IDPs are children, women and the elderly. The majority of the displaced persons are from rural areas.

62. While the 1993 programme focused on the delivery of emergency assistance, that aspect of the programme is planned to be concluded in 1994, if financial resources and logistical considerations permit. A pilot project is being prepared that will gradually shift the emphasis to finding a more long-term solution to the problem of shelter for some 80 per cent of the displaced persons, who are temporarily housed in public buildings, such as schools, dormitories and technical institutes. Such a long-term solution would reduce the strain on infrastructure in the health and education sectors, improve water and sanitation, and promote a measure of economic activity for those displaced persons who are unemployed.

63. As a result of inadequate programme resources to meet the additional needs and problems relating to transporting relief items to outlying areas, the provision of relief items to the case-load of beneficiaries has not been fully achieved to date.

64. In an effort to maintain the basic health and physical well-being of the refugees and IDPs and to replenish items made available previously, UNHCR is procuring blankets (150,000), liquid or solid fuel heaters (stoves) for 20,000 families, kitchen sets (10,000) and locally made kerosene lamps (2,000). In addition, UNHCR will provide 100 tons of toilet soap for a target population of 150,000 over a period of six months, as a one-time supply.

65. The most vulnerable segments of the refugee and IDP communities will be provided with locally procured clothing and footwear (1,000 pieces of each). Children below the age of 12 are the main target group of beneficiaries. The distribution of domestic items will be undertaken by the regional executive committees overseen by the Government, central authority, and the Department for Refugees and Displaced Persons, with UNHCR-appointed non-governmental

organizations carrying out the distribution in their regions of operation. To support the most vulnerable families, UNHCR will, whenever necessary, provide one-time financial assistance amounting to US$ 50 covering a total of 70 families during the period of project implementation.

66. As in the previous year, arrangements are being continued for the supply of heavy-duty plastic sheets to provide shelter to many refugees and displaced persons housed in simple or inadequate structures and to improve their immediate living conditions.

67. UNHCR is in the process of procuring 2,000 double-fly tents to partially replace tents that suffered damage and no longer provide adequate shelter for displaced communities residing in roadside settlements and camps. A large number of tents will need to be replaced in the preparation for the 1994/95 winter season, particularly in the camps.

68. The project is also providing for one-family dwellings to be constructed with locally available construction material and to make permanent shelter available to some of the displaced persons who are living in occupied public school buildings and other learning institutions, in order to relieve the pressure on the educational facilities to enable some of the schools to resume teaching.

69. ICRC visits persons detained in relation with the Karabakh conflict and is facilitating contacts between the detainees and their families via Red Cross messages. Furthermore, one international and one national staff are exclusively involved in the promotion of respect for international humanitarian law in the Azerbaijan armed forces, the media and other target groups.

E. Education

70. It has been found that, in the massive displacement and exodus of populations since 1988, approximately 45 per cent of the 908,000 refugees and displaced persons in Azerbaijan live in temporary shelters, tents or in the open; their children have virtually no access to education.

71. Access to schools in the areas of Azerbaijan affected by the conflict is a critical issue, with 200 school buildings currently occupied by refugee and internally displaced families, and more than 58,500 children unable to attend school regularly.

72. Since school buildings provide shelter to the displaced people, plans are under way to provide children with alternative school facilities in order to revive primary and secondary level classroom activities and to cater to an increased number of school-going children. It is thus envisaged to erect up to 300 school tents with dimensions of 3.5 m x 8.0 m.

73. The shortage of textbooks is a cause for concern. Shortages are particularly acute among refugees and displaced children. UNHCR is addressing the issue through a pilot project that envisages the provision of school furniture and teaching materials.

F. Social sector

74. UNDP is funding a pilot labour-force survey, which is being conducted through the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of Azerbaijan. The project will analyse future employment needs and trends, taking into account the needs of families expected to resettle in Azerbaijan in the near future.

G. Small business assistance

75. The activity is designed to equip selected tradesmen with tool kits to support their renewed skills and to promote economic activity and self-reliance among the trained artisans. The project will enable a limited number of tradesmen, such as masons, carpenters, car mechanics, electricians and plumbers, to resume their trades as well as to provide regular services to displaced communities.

76. UNHCR is also implementing a programme for supporting small-scale agricultural activities by refugee and displaced families. About 4 tons of seeds have been made available, providing up to 60,000 families with the opportunity to grow their own vegetables. In addition to hybrid seeds, the project is also providing for the procurement of 11,000 sets of farming implements to complement and support vegetable growing by the beneficiaries. The tools will also find application in the rehabilitation and repair work of temporary shelter and in providing means for practical work by the beneficiaries themselves, promoting a degree of self-reliance.

IV. ASSISTANCE BY STATES, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

77. Significant bilateral humanitarian assistance is being provided to Azerbaijan by States, operating through regional organizations, such as the European Union, and international and national non-governmental organizations. Information on such assistance, which was provided by States in response to a request by the United Nations Secretariat, has been collated below.

78. Egypt has provided assistance to Azerbaijan by sending packages of blankets, medicines and medical equipment for a total sum of 364,000 Egyptian pounds.

79. The Islamic Republic of Iran is actively engaged in relief operations in Azerbaijan by providing food, water, sanitation and health-care facilities through IRCS. Health care and medical services to the displaced persons are being provided in IRCS clinics. To date, almost 2,500 cases of measles and polio have been treated, and diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP) vaccinations for children under five have been conducted.

80. Japan has provided US$ 1 million for the provision of medicines, blankets and other materials through UNHCR; US$ 1 million for the provision of medicine and medical equipment through ICRC; 1.25 million yen for the provision of UNICEF

emergency medical kits and contributed US$ 600,000 through UNHCR in support of its efforts on behalf of Azerbaijani refugees and displaced persons from Armenia.

81. Norway has contributed a total of 11,467,602 Norwegian kroner (NKr) to relief efforts for Azerbaijan, of which NKr 7,410,000 was allocated to food, refugee camps, medicines, tents and protection of civilians; NKr 3 million was donated through UNHCR to programmes for refugees and internally displaced persons; and NKr 1,057,602 was allocated through Norwegian non-governmental organizations to internally displaced persons and to the secondment of personnel.

82. Pakistan has contributed 2.4 million Pakistan rupees for special humanitarian assistance to the Azerbaijani refugees; the sum was used to purchase relief goods, including 100 tents, 2,500 blankets and 1,885 kgs of medical supplies, which were delivered through the IRCS.

83. Switzerland provided emergency assistance to the three countries of the Caucasus in the amount of 3,570,000 Swiss francs in 1993; the sum was distributed among ICRC, UNHCR, WFP and the Swiss Red Cross. Assistance provided in the first quarter of 1994 amounted to 700,000 Swiss francs and was channelled through WFP.

84. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has provided assistance to Azerbaijan in support of refugee and displaced persons in the amount of 2,199,736 pounds sterling (£) since December 1992; it provided £2,035,597 in the financial year 1993-1994. In addition, the United Kingdom provided £750,000 for the United Nations Consolidated Appeal in March 1993, of which £500,000 was delivered to WFP, £200,000 to UNICEF and £50,000 to WHO. The United Kingdom also contributed funds totalling £2,092,000 to the European Union's humanitarian assistance programme in Azerbaijan.

85. The United States of America has earmarked US$ 12 million for emergency assistance to Azerbaijan in fiscal year 1994. Of that sum, US$ 10 million has been disbursed to date in the following manner: US$ 3,050,000 was allocated through CARE International for the provision of food and transportation; US$ 1 million worth of pharmaceuticals were provided through Save the Children (United States of America); US$ 500,000 was made available to WFP for the provision of food; and US$ 6,174,000 was donated through private organizations for the procurement of medical supplies, sanitation equipment, tents and food, through the United States Department of Agriculture and WFP.

86. The European Union has provided emergency food assistance (wheat, sugar and vegetable oil) to the three countries of the Caucasus in the amount of 13 million European currency units (ECUs).

87. The World Bank responded early in 1994 to the request of the Government of Azerbaijan for assistance in alleviating the severe water supply shortage in Baku; it is currently preparing a project for Bank financing. The Bank agreed to follow up on two technical assistance projects and the proposed Baku water supply project in fiscal year 1995. The Bank also agreed to initiate the

preparation of a gas rehabilitation project and an irrigation rehabilitation project for fiscal year 1996.

88. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies provided over 800 tons of wheat flour and 8,000 family food parcels.

89. The Swiss Academy for Development, in a joint assistance programme with IRCS, has donated a large amount of food, household and hygienic items.

90. OXFAM (United Kingdom) is engaged in the implementation of a project for the rehabilitation and construction of water and sanitation components, as well as in the accompanying solid-waste and pest control and related health education programmes of the project. OXFAM has undertaken to install 270 toilets and established five baths with 20 showers. The construction work on the baths has begun.

91. Médecins Sans Frontières (Belgium) is the primary partner of UNHCR in the implementation of projects in the health sector. It is providing basic medical field assessments, the rudimentary training of local medical auxiliary staff and the distribution of appropriate medicines to the beneficiaries. The UNHCR-appointed non-governmental organization is responsible for the purchase of selected medical supplies and its distribution on a case-by-case basis to refugees and displaced persons in the most vulnerable districts. The organization is also fielding international medical staff in support of the activities of the Ministry of Health of Azerbaijan.

92. Relief International (United States of America) in cooperation with Médecins Sans Frontières (Belgium), ensures the implementation of projects in the health sector serving primarily the most isolated and rural communities, where it provides primary health-care outreach and mobile clinic programmes. It also acts as a partner to WFP and has undertaken most of the distribution of food to vulnerable categories and to internally displaced persons in over 10 districts around Baku.

93. CARE Canada has recently established its presence in Azerbaijan, with distribution activities centred in Mingachevir, and will become the main implementing partner of WFP for most future consignments.

94. ADRA (United States of America) is distributing food to displaced persons in the Nakhitchevan region.

95. The Azerbaijani Red Crescent Society is responsible for the receipt, storage, transport and distribution of relief items in the metropolitan area of Baku.

V. OBSERVATIONS

96. Azerbaijan has been ravaged by six years of conflict over the Nagorny Karabakh region. In July 1994, the Azerbaijani and Armenian Defence Ministers and the military representative of Nagorny Karabakh signed a declaration committing themselves to continue to abide by the cease-fire reached

early May until the signing of the comprehensive political agreement. The Russian Federation and the CSCE Minsk Group have revitalized their mediatory efforts. The international community has high hopes that a resolution to the long conflict can be found in the near future.

97. The military conflict has taken a terrible toll on the people of Azerbaijan and has contributed to a further deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Azerbaijan, in particular due to the displacement of large numbers of civilians. Even in regions not directly affected by fighting, the impact of the war is nevertheless being felt in terms of economic breakdown, the deterioration of social services, marginal living standards and influxes of injured and war-displaced people who have little hope of receiving adequate care.

98. The United Nations system has been in the forefront of the efforts to alleviate the plight of the many thousands of refugees and displaced persons, but the success of its efforts to provide assistance will depend entirely on effective international support that provides adequate means for the task.

99. The continuing conflict constrains the ability of the United Nations and its partners in relief to assist in finding a durable and lasting solution to the problem of refugees and displaced persons in Azerbaijan.

Notes

1/ For contributions to the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for the Caucasus (as regards Azerbaijan), see tables 1 and 2. It should be noted that a number of donors have also provided funds for the coordination of the inter-agency humanitarian programme in Azerbaijan.

Table 1. United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for the Caucasus (relative to Azerbaijan): total contributions/income, by agency, as of 29 July 1994

(United States dollars)

Country	Agency	Requirements (Apr. 94-Mar. 95	Pledged carry-over	Shortfall	Percentage covered
Azerbaijan	UNHCR a/	6 988 400	2 413 370	4 575 030	34.5
	UNICEF	2 339 296	298 507	2 040 789	12.8
	WHO	3 645 000	80 000	3 565 000	2.2
	UNESCO	1 526 000	0	1 526 000	0.0
	UNV	186 000	0	186 000	0.0
	IOM	98 400	0	98 400	0.0
	WFP b/ c/	14 469 277	7 652 338	6 816 939	52.9
Total		29 252 373	10 444 215	18 808 158	35.7

a/ UNHCR budget covers the period 1 January to 31 December 1994 because it has an ongoing programme with an annual budget cycle.

b/ Food requirements based on the 1 August 1994 to 31 March 1995 time-period.

c/ WFP has reported a further requirement of 25,526 tons and a further carry-over of 12,267 tons, which constitutes a shortfall of 13,259 tons and a coverage of 48.1 per cent for that requirement.

/...

Table 2. United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for the Caucasus (relative to Azerbaijan): donor breakdown of contributions, by agency, as of 29 July 1994

Donor	Channel	Project code-sector	US$
Canada	UNHCR	CAU-94-1/N28 - Assistance to refugees/IDPs	182 482
France	UNHCR	CAU-94-1/N28 - Assistance to refugees/IDPs	175 131
Netherlands	UNHCR	CAU-94-1/N28 - Assistance to refugees/IDPs	561 798
Norway	UNHCR	CAU-94-1/N28 - Assistance to refugees/IDPs	410 959
United Kingdom	WHO	CAU-94-1/N23-B - Health	10 000
United Kingdom	WHO	CAU-94-1/N24-B - Health	45 000
United Kingdom	WHO	CAU-94-1/N25-B - Health	10 000
United Kingdom	WHO	CAU-94-1/N26-B - Health	15 000
United Kingdom	UNICEF	Relief assistance to displaced people and other vulnerable groups	298 507
United States	UNHCR	CAU-94-1/N28 - Assistance to refugees/IDPs	683 000
	UNHCR	CAU-94-1/N28 - Assistance to refugees/IDPs	300 000
Stichting Vluchteling (NETH)	UNHCR	CAU-94-1/N28 - For health services through MSF and Ref. Int.	100 000
Total for Azerbaijan			2 791 877

WFP food contributions

			Tons	US$
United States	WFP	CAU-94-1/N21 - Emergency food assistance	5 926	2 868 000

WFP food contributions: carry-over

	Tons	US$
Finland	137	196 278
Netherlands	1 593	531 915
United Kingdom	1 760	746 269
United States	1 633	1 525 000
United States	400	886 000
European Community	818	898 876
Total for Azerbaijan	6 341	4 784 338

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/381
14 September 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
Items 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18, 35, 37, 43, 44, 48, 58, 63, 64, 76, 80, 83, 84, 85, 90, 91, 92, 93, 95, 97, 98, 99, 100 and 106 of the provisional agenda*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK: REPORTS OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

REPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN PRINCIPAL ORGANS

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

LAW OF THE SEA

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

RESTRUCTURING AND REVITALIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS

---

* A/49/150.

94-36062 (E) 280994 300994

COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1995

LAUNCHING OF GLOBAL NEGOTIATIONS ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

COMPREHENSIVE TEST-BAN TREATY

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONCLUDING DOCUMENT OF THE TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC AND OTHER INTERESTS WHICH IMPEDE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES IN TERRITORIES UNDER COLONIAL DOMINATION

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

AGENDA FOR DEVELOPMENT

RIGHTS OF PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION AND TO YOUTH, AGEING, DISABLED PERSONS AND THE FAMILY

CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Letter dated 5 September 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chairman of the Group of Member States of the South Pacific Forum that are States Members of the United Nations, and have the honour to transmit to you the attached copy of the communiqué of the Twenty-Fifth South Pacific Forum, which was held at Brisbane, Australia, from 31 July to 2 August 1994 (see annex).

I wish to draw your attention, in particular, to paragraph 39 of the communiqué, which records the decision taken by the South Pacific Forum to apply at the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly for observer status in the Assembly.

I would be grateful for your assistance in distributing the present letter and the communiqué as an official document of the General Assembly under items 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 18, 35, 37, 43, 44, 48, 58, 63, 64, 76, 80, 83, 84, 85, 90, 91, 92, 93, 95, 97, 98, 99, 100 and 106 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Richard ROWE
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

/...

ANNEX

Communiqué of the Twenty-Fifth South Pacific Forum, held at Brisbane, Australia, from 31 July to 2 August 1994

1. The Twenty-Fifth South Pacific Forum was held at Brisbane from 31 July to 2 August 1994, and was attended by the Heads of State and Government of Australia, the Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa.

2. The Forum thanked the people and the Government of Australia for the generous hospitality provided to all delegations to the Forum.

Managing our resources

3. The Forum's considerations focused on the vital topic of "managing our resources", and the leaders issued a separate statement (see appendix) following valuable informal discussions at their retreat. The Forum endorsed the principles contained in the Declaration on Cooperation in the Development of Natural Resources in the South Pacific in the context of the Forum theme. The Forum concentrated on the development of human resources in the region, managing forestry resources and their exploitation, the development of fisheries and their associated industries, land use concerns and their relationship to sustainable development, and the growth of tourism. Additional conclusions reached were as follows.

4. Human resources: The Forum agreed on the critical importance of sustainable development and, in particular, education as a key to effective management of the region's natural resources. The Forum endorsed the Suva Declaration on Sustainable Human Development in the Pacific and underlined the importance of the quality of family life in the context of Pacific island cultures. It noted the importance of the upcoming International Conference on Population and Development and World Summit for Social Development.

5. Forests: The Forum expressed concern at the way in which forests throughout the region and the world were being harvested in a highly destructive manner. It welcomed initiatives being taken at the national level with the aim of achieving sustainable forestry practices, and noted international negotiations on the subject.

6. The Forum warmly welcomed the agreement between the Prime Ministers of Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu:

(a) To work towards a common code of conduct governing logging of indigenous forests, to which companies operating in their countries will have to adhere;

(b) On the need to increase urgently monitoring of logging and exports of timber;

(c) That senior officials will meet within the next two months to begin implementing these decisions.

7. Land: The Forum acknowledged the fundamental requirement for the efficient use of land. It recognized that the centrality of indigenous rights and customs and the special relationship of indigenous people to their land and the usage of land varies from country to country. The Forum also agreed on the need to prevent degradation of land.

8. Fisheries: The Forum agreed that multilateral approaches will be strengthened to promote the sustainable exploitation of fish stocks within the region. Towards this end, there is the need to define sustainable catch levels for all fisheries based on the precautionary principle; for countries to work together to enhance the monitoring and policing of fishing; to obtain fair prices for the fisheries resource; and to exploit opportunities for value-added production. The Forum urged all member countries to continue to play an active role in the United Nations Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

9. Law of the Sea: The Forum welcomed the imminent entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which would strengthen the regional ties that the member nation States of the South Pacific Forum have already formed. The Convention would also provide a stronger basis for continued progress in coordination and cooperation in the conservation, management and exploitation of the living marine resources occurring within the region's exclusive economic and fisheries zones.

10. Private sector: The Forum considered the implications for the region of the outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. It recognized that in the new global trading environment individual businesses needed to be efficient in order to compete effectively and to identify opportunities in international markets.

11. The Forum agreed that the private sector had an important role to play in the reforms now being undertaken in the region and, for this reason, the private sector needed to be strengthened to enable it to lead the next stage of growth. It recognized that if the private sector was to play its role in full, the appropriate critical mass was necessary and, because of differing circumstances, the rate of private sector development would vary from country to country. The Forum directed the Forum secretariat to undertake a greater facilitating role in providing policy advice to member Governments in these areas.

12. Finance and trade ministers: The Forum agreed that a meeting of finance ministers should take place in the near future, with a report being made to the twenty-sixth Forum, and welcomed Australia's offer to fund the first meeting at the Forum secretariat. It also encouraged the participation of representatives from the international financial institutions. The Forum also noted proposals that trade ministers should also meet to consider, among other things, free trade arrangements within the region and means to promote the region's products and services.

Development

13. The Forum stressed the need to adopt a global perspective in regard to the development of economic policies, in particular ensuring the achievement of maximum sustainable economic returns on the region's resources, enhancing development of the private sector, responding to changing global economic conditions, increasing the level of value-added production, and developing regional approaches to international trade.

14. Among the policy initiatives that could be considered by the meeting of finance ministers would be:

(a) Devising appropriate policy responses to maximize opportunities and minimize threats resulting from changes to the global economic environment;

(b) Broadening the economic base in Forum island countries by increasing international competitiveness and productivity;

(c) Improving the balance of payments situation in Forum island countries through the reduction of imports via the adoption of procurement, conservation and efficiency policies;

(d) Enhancing the management of development assistance through clear articulation of Forum island countries development policies and priorities;

(e) Ensuring the collection of reliable, up-to-date, useful and accurate data;

(f) Improving the efficiency of the vital subsistence sector in the Forum island countries.

15. The Forum recognized the particular developmental constraints faced by its smaller members, as well as their limited resources. It agreed that special measures were required to enable them to achieve national development objectives and to manage their resources in a sustainable manner.

16. South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement (SPARTECA): The Forum welcomed the announcement by Australia to contribute $A 900,000 towards the establishment of a foreign investment advisory service office to support further quality investment in the region and to provide assistance to improve product development and market research and overcome non-tariff barriers to trade. It also welcomed the decision of New Zealand to reduce the rule of origin requirements from 50 per cent to 45 per cent for garment imports under SPARTECA.

17. Representative office, Tokyo: The Forum reaffirmed its commitment to the establishment of a South Pacific representative office at Tokyo, with the assistance of the Government of Japan, to promote trade, investment and tourism between Japan and the Forum island countries.

18. Motor spirit octane rating: The Forum considered the considerable economic and environmental benefits offered by adoption of new motor spirit standards in

the region. It recommended that countries in the region adopt a change in the grade of motor spirit from 97 Research Octane Number (RON), 0.84 grams per litre lead, to 92 RON, 0.4 or 0.15 grams per litre lead.

Environmental issues

19. Climate change and sealevel rise: The Forum reaffirmed that global warming and sealevel rise were among the most serious threats to the Pacific region and the survival of some island States. The Forum recognized that existing commitments in the Framework Convention on Climate Change will not meet the ultimate objective of the Convention, and called for early agreement on a process for negotiating one or more protocols to implement and elaborate the Convention so that reductions of greenhouse gas emissions were achieved. It called on Annex 1 Parties to the Framework Convention to meet their obligations and on all non-parties to adhere to the Convention by the end of 1994. Annex 1 countries should ensure that joint implementation complements and does not replace action at home. Priority should be given to activities in support of the Framework Convention's objectives, including both research and also those activities that will assist Forum countries to meet their Convention commitments. The Forum urged enhanced efforts to implement energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources.

20. Coastal zones and land-based pollution: The Forum stressed the importance of sound coastal protection systems and welcomed national, regional and international attention to the preservation of coral reef ecosystems. The Forum supported the development of the emerging global regime for the protection of the oceans against land-based sources of pollution.

21. Biodiversity conservation: The Forum endorsed the establishment of conservation areas under the South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme; encouraged Forum members that had not yet done so to ratify the Convention on Biological Diversity as soon as possible; and urged participation to the fullest extent practicable in the first meeting of the contracting parties.

22. The Forum condemned the international trade in endangered species and recommended that Forum members that had not yet done so consider accession to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

23. The Forum welcomed the establishment by the International Whaling Commission of the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary. It also urged the international community to support the continuation of the moratorium on commercial whaling. The Forum noted growing interest in whale watching and the implication of this for developing eco-tourism in the region.

24. The Forum noted with approval the proposal that 1995 be designated the "Year of the Sea Turtle".

25. Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States: The Forum welcomed and endorsed the outcomes of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in

Barbados in April/May 1994. The Forum also stressed the importance of effective implementation of the recommendations in the Conference's Programme of Action for achieving sustainable development in the region. The Forum decided to establish a regional consultative mechanism to coordinate and facilitate implementation of the Barbados Conference's outcomes, as recommended in paragraph 132 of the Programme of Action. Such a mechanism should consist of a support unit utilizing the resources and services of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Pacific Operations Centre (EPOC), and an advisory committee comprised of senior policy officials. SPREP, in consultation with EPOC and interested parties, should prepare a report on modalities of the mechanism for consideration at the 1994 SPREP annual meeting and, subsequently, by the Forum.

26. Global Environment Facility (GEF): The Forum welcomed the restructuring and replenishment of GEF and its intention to assist in the implementation of the outcome of the Barbados Conference. The Forum called on GEF to provide information and advice to facilitate access to financial and technical resources in support of sustainable development of small island developing States; to support projects that cover more than one of the four areas of GEF; and to support regional approaches to global environmental issues that demonstrate economies of scale and improved coordination for small island developing States.

27. Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS): The Forum supported the continued effective operation and strengthening of AOSIS and commended the extension of its activities as stated in the AOSIS Summit Communiqué issued in Barbados.

28. Hazardous and radioactive wastes: The Forum, in noting the recent decision of the parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal to ban all exports of hazardous wastes from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries to non-OECD countries, welcomed the progress made in the negotiation of a convention to ban the importation into Forum island countries of hazardous wastes and to control their transboundary movement and management within the South Pacific region. The Forum directed officials to make every effort to ensure that the convention would be completed in time for signature at the twenty-sixth South Pacific Forum. The Forum encouraged members to become involved in these negotiations and endorsed the recommendation that SPREP act as the secretariat under the convention.

29. It welcomed the ban on the dumping of radioactive wastes at sea adopted by all but one party to the London Dumping Convention in November 1993. It expressed concern at the possibility of continued dumping of radioactive wastes in the North Pacific by the Russian Federation. It restated the importance of an enhanced international regime to cover possible transboundary damage arising from peaceful nuclear activity. It reiterated its concerns at the risks inherent in shipments of radioactive materials by Japan, and its expectation that such shipments would be made in accordance with the highest international safety and security standards and in a manner which satisfactorily addressed all possible contingencies.

Political and security issues

30. New Caledonia: The Forum noted the further implementation of the Matignon Agreement in the past 12 months. It considered that real economic and social rebalancing was still some distance away and noted that both the French and territorial authorities had acknowledged the need for further efforts in that regard.

31. The Forum affirmed its support for continuing contacts with the French territories as a positive contribution towards the Matignon process. It noted with pleasure in particular that the Kanak Training Fund was now operating successfully with a number of fellowships having been granted. It further noted that the secretariat's relations with France and its territories were on a good footing, with a memorandum of understanding on funding cooperation having recently been signed.

32. Proposed joint declaration of cooperation with the United States of America (FOCUS agreement): The Forum noted and was encouraged by the progress on the framework agreement on cooperation between the Governments of the South Pacific island States and the United States of America. It endorsed in particular a revised text, prepared after consideration of the position of the United States, in the form of a declaration rather than as a treaty, for continuing negotiations with the United States and urged the United States to respond promptly and positively.

33. Joint Commercial Commission (JCC): The Forum agreed that officials would meet later this year at the East West Centre to formulate an agenda and proposals to promote trade and investment between the United States and the Pacific island States. These proposals would be considered by leaders in early 1995 with a view to agreed initiatives being discussed with the United States at the second substantive session of the JCC later in 1995.

34. Law enforcement cooperation: The Forum commended the continued progress in the implementation of the Honiara Declaration on Law Enforcement, in particular the way in which the specialist regional agencies, especially the Pacific Island Law Officers Meeting, in cooperation with the secretariat, had taken initiatives. As the availability of resources remained the main obstacle to much of the law enforcement cooperation, the Forum acknowledged that the ability to move the law enforcement cooperation programme outside the core areas of the Honiara Declaration would be limited, at least for the short term.

35. Nuclear weapons: The Forum welcomed the continuing growth in the membership of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and expressed the desire of its members to see the Treaty extended indefinitely at the 1995 review and extension conference.

36. The Forum welcomed the extension by the United States of its moratorium on nuclear testing, and the continuation by other nuclear-weapons States (except China) of their nuclear-testing moratoriums. The Forum noted that, if France were to cease testing permanently, this would contribute significantly to improving further the relations between France and the Forum countries. Any resumption of testing would be a major set-back to the current positive trend in

relations between France and the region. In this context, the Forum welcomed the commitment of nuclear-weapon States to negotiating a comprehensive test-ban treaty and the progress that was being made in those negotiations, and called for the early conclusion of the treaty. The Forum expressed deep regret over the nuclear test conducted by China on 10 June 1994, and called on China to cease nuclear testing and join the other nuclear-weapon States in a moratorium. Forum countries reiterated their call for the United States, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and France to accede to the protocols to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Rarotonga) as a demonstration of their commitment to nuclear non-proliferation and a ban on testing.

37. The Forum reaffirmed its abhorrence of chemical weapons and reiterated its support for the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction. The Forum urged all members of the international community to sign and ratify the Convention in order to bring it into force as soon as possible.

38. Other nuclear issues: The Forum noted with appreciation the cooperation since the last Forum of Japan in responding to South Pacific Forum concerns regarding plutonium shipments, by provision of information on, and consultation about, its programme of plutonium use. In the context of the continuing discussion in the International Atomic Energy Agency to establish a comprehensive international legal regime on liability, the Forum considered that the region should support the establishment of a credible civil liability regime with adequate compensation levels.

39. Relations with the United Nations: The Forum acknowledged the importance of broadening its exchange of information and consultation with the United Nations Secretariat in New York. To this end, the Forum will apply for observer status at the United Nations General Assembly, with the observer status serviced by cooperation between the Secretariat and the South Pacific countries group of Forum missions in New York through the Forum Chairman. Conscious of the resource implications of this proposal on both the Secretariat and the Forum members' missions in New York, the Forum will focus on United Nations business of direct and immediate relevance to the Forum positions, and involve, where appropriate, a range of regional agencies which could contribute to United Nations discussions on particular technical issues.

Forum country initiatives

40. United Nations Security Council: The Forum declared its support for the candidacy of Australia for the Security Council for a two-year term.

41. Australia/Pacific 2000: The Forum noted the benefits that could be derived for the whole region from the Olympic games, which are to be hosted by Sydney, Australia, in the year 2000, and welcomed the decision by Australia to provide $A 1 million per year for an Australia/Pacific 2000 programme to extend the benefits of the Sydney 2000 Olympic games to Pacific island countries.

Institutional matters

42. Forum review: The Forum endorsed the report of the Ministerial Working Group in the review of the Forum's processes and procedures and expressed its appreciation to the Ministers for the report. The Forum agreed that:

(a) It should continue to meet annually at head of Government level;

(b) The Forum agenda should be sharper and more focused, addressing three or four substantive issues requiring head of Government consideration;

(c) The Forum Chairman should play a more active role in managing Forum meetings and in articulating agreed Forum policy positions between meetings on issues of major importance to the Forum, in close consultation with the Secretary-General and in accordance with guidelines proposed;

(d) The Secretary-General should be involved more actively in pursuing Forum objectives in the United Nations, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation group of countries and the Association of South-East Asian Nations.

43. Pacific Prize: The Forum confirmed the establishment of the Pacific Prize and the guidelines for selection that have been developed.

44. Reappointment of the Secretary-General: The Forum announced the reappointment of the Hon. Ieremia T. Tabai as Secretary-General of the Forum for a further term of three years.

Reports of regional organizations

45. The Forum received with appreciation and adopted, where appropriate, the annual reports of:

(a) The Director of the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency;

(b) The Director of the Pacific Islands Development Programme;

(c) The Director of the South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission;

(d) The Vice-Chancellor of the University of the South Pacific;

(e) The Secretary-General of the Forum secretariat;

(f) The Director of the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme;

(g) The Director of the Tourism Council for the South Pacific.

Date and venue of the next meeting

46. The Forum reaffirmed its appreciation and acceptance of the kind offer of Papua New Guinea to host the twenty-sixth South Pacific Forum. The date for the Forum will be finalized by Papua New Guinea in consultation with the secretariat. The Forum also warmly accepted the offer by the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Cook Islands to host the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth South Pacific Forum respectively.

Appendix

Twenty-Fifth South Pacific Forum: statement from the leaders' retreat dated 1 August 1994

We have had a very valuable discussion on important resource management issues facing the Forum region. We are all agreed on the urgent need to make better use of the region's resources.

We have decided to take action in a number of areas as follows:

Fisheries

The region's fisheries are an internationally significant resource from which the countries of the region should receive a fair return. We supported the development of a multilateral approach to negotiating access to fisheries resources in our exclusive economic zones. We agreed that no member should be worse off under future multilateral arrangements. The Forum will pursue this issue with distant water fishing nations that do not have multilateral agreements.

We have asked that Forum countries take this up with distant water fishing nations at their meeting in December.

We agreed on the need to strengthen the South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency capacity so that it can ensure more effective national control and management of the region's fisheries.

We also noted the importance for the future of the fishing industry in the region of fish farming and aquaculture and the replenishment of fish stocks.

Airlines

There was general agreement on the need to deal with airline losses. The leaders agreed to examine the options for a rationalization of air services among Forum island countries, perhaps on a subregional basis.

We agreed that, given the problems of distance and size in the Pacific, any reform of airline structures should take into account the need to ensure adequate services throughout the region. It would also need to look at such factors as the frequency and cost of operations, fares and safety.

A meeting of operators and civil aviation authorities will be convened to prepare a proposal for consideration by heads of Government.

Forestry

Leaders were strongly concerned about the exploitation of tropical forests in the region and welcomed recent initiatives by Vanuatu and Solomon Islands to halt the spread of unsustainable logging practices, including the introduction

of independent monitoring systems. We agreed that the people of the region needed to receive a much higher return from logging operations.

The Forum endorsed the undertaking of leaders of the Melanesian Spearhead Group to examine uniform legislation, procedures and practices in forest resources.

Tourism

Tourism provides valuable employment opportunities. We recognized the excellent potential for tourism development in our region, provided its unique environmental features were preserved. In this regard, we noted the particular need to protect the region's fragile coastal zones.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/382
14 September 1994
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH AND SPANISH

Forty-ninth session
Item 29 of the provisional agenda*

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM

Report of the Secretary-General

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report was prepared in compliance with General Assembly resolution 48/22, of 22 November 1993, concerning cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System (SELA), which was adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

2. In that resolution, the General Assembly:

"1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. Urges the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to continue broadening and deepening its coordination and mutual support activities with the Latin American Economic System;

"3. Urges the United Nations Development Programme to strengthen and expand its support to the programmes that the Permanent Secretariat of the Latin American Economic System is carrying out, aimed at complementing the technical assistance activities conducted by the Latin American Economic System;

"4. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to continue and intensify their support for, and cooperation in the activities of, the Latin American Economic System;

---

* A/49/150.

"5. Requests both the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Permanent Secretary of the Latin American Economic System to assess, at the appropriate time, the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. For the preparation of the present report, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) wrote to the following organizations of the United Nations system requesting an update of their activities with the Latin American Economic System (SELA), to be included in the Secretary-General's report: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Monetary Fund (IMF), International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Universal Postal Union (UPU), World Bank, World Health Organization (WHO), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), World Food Programme (WFP), United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), United Nations University (UNU), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) and United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat). Fourteen of these organizations sent updated information on their cooperation with SELA. Seven noted that they did not currently carry out any activities with SELA, although some of them expressed a desire to do so in the future. The following summary was based on all of this information.

II. COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM

4. As noted in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session (A/48/409), since the establishment in October 1975 of SELA, considerable cooperation has taken place between United Nations organizations, agencies and programmes, especially the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and SELA.

5. As the above-mentioned report shows, this cooperation has intensified over the years and has become more diversified in terms of both the areas of cooperation and the organizations concerned.

6. Cooperation between ECLAC and SELA has consisted, inter alia, of the participation of representatives of ECLAC and SELA in different meetings of the two institutions, and in the preparation by ECLAC of specialized documents in different spheres in support of SELA activities. Listed below are some examples of this cooperation.

7. In the social area, ECLAC has continued to cooperate with SELA in the framework of inter-agency activities concerning integrated social policies in Latin America and the Caribbean. In June 1993 the fourth informal inter-agency meeting on the issue, convened by ECLAC, took place in Cartagena, Colombia. At the meeting, major cooperation agreements concerning preparations for the World Summit for Social Development were adopted.

8. The Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) has maintained close, continued cooperation in its programme activities with SELA, through regular contacts and/or working meetings with the Permanent Secretary and other SELA officials.

9. In the demographic area, ECLAC, through the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE), has continued to collaborate with SELA; this collaboration has taken the form of participation by the Latin American Documentation System (DOCPAL) in the project "Network of networks", which comprises one of the activities of the project entitled "The status of regional cooperation" (PESICRE), administered by the Permanent Secretariat of SELA.

10. The Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation (CLADES) has organized a series of meetings within the framework of the training programme on information management. These meetings are attended by managers of regional information networks and are intended to improve technical and practical skills related to the field of information management, so as to facilitate the integration of these networks into the global market-place.

11. With respect to international trade, the secretariats of SELA, the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and ECLAC have prepared a document entitled "América Latina y el Caribe ante la actual coyuntura de la Ronda Uruguay", which was presented at the meeting of the Ministers of the Rio Group responsible for multilateral trade negotiations in the context of the Uruguay Round, held in Montevideo on 17 September 1993, which was attended by the Director-General of GATT.

12. In the area of integration, ECLAC has participated in the design and execution of the programme "Courses on integration for Central America", the first of which will be taught in November 1994 in Panama City.

13. As regards industrial policy, ECLAC will participate, through both the preparation of documents and the participation of speakers, in the regional forum on industrial policy to be held on 27 and 28 October in San José, Costa Rica.

14. SELA participated in the second conference of the Inter-American Development Bank/ECLAC project entitled "Support to the process of hemispheric

trade liberalization", which was held in Washington, D.C., on 1 and 2 November 1993. Issues related to this process discussed at the conference included subregional agreements and the Western Hemisphere Free Trade Zone, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the economic costs and benefits of trade liberalization, rules of origin, settlement of disputes, economic integration in the Western Hemisphere, different countries' trade strategies, the conditions needed to maximize the benefits of a free trade zone and trade relations between North and South America. ECLAC also participated in the 20th ordinary meeting of the Latin American Council, held in Mexico City from 30 May to 3 June 1994, and in an international seminar entitled "The development of Latin America and the Caribbean in the twenty-first century: SELA perspectives", held as part of the meeting.

15. FAO has participated in a number of meetings convened by SELA, including the 8th Meeting of Directors of International Technical Cooperation, held in Caracas from 24 to 26 August 1993; the 9th meeting of the Coordination Mechanism for Regional Bodies and Forums Engaged in TCDC activities, held in Caracas, on 27 August 1993; the 19th ordinary meeting of the Latin American Council, held in Caracas, on 28 and 29 October 1993; and the ministerial session at the 20th ordinary meeting of the Latin American Council, held in Mexico City, on 2 and 3 June 1994.

16. FAO had also initiated discussion with the Action Committee for the Economic and Social Development of Central America (CADESCA) concerning cooperation in the implementation of activities relating to food security information systems. Although joint action programmes were foreseen at that time, these programmes were not implemented because CADESCA discontinued its activities soon afterwards.

17. FAO has been providing assistance in food security programming to 14 Latin American countries through a LAIA/FAO regional project, and specific areas for action have been identified in many of these countries. The implementation of food security actions is a field in which cooperation between FAO and SELA could be enhanced in the future.

18. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) provides technical assistance to SELA in the field of shipping to the Latin American countries either directly or through the IMO Regional Coordinator.

19. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO), in cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank and the Government of Spain, will implement a regional project entitled "Ibero-American climate", which aims at establishing very short-range, short-range and medium-range weather forecasting systems for application in sustainable development programmes in Latin American countries. Other projects being implemented in Latin America include one on a monitoring and research network on greenhouse gases, ozone and UV-B in the five Southern Cone countries and another entitled "Regional cooperative activities in support of global change research" both financed with Global Environment Facility funds. A number of initiatives relating to the protection of the environment are under negotiation with various potential donors.

20. WMO is implementing an important project for a new meteorological telecommunication network based on two-way multipoint telecommunication services via satellite; the project is being financed by the Finnish Agency for International Development (FINNAID) in the case of seven countries in the Central American Isthmus, and by the United States in the case of Caribbean countries. The project will provide an essential infrastructure for the availability of data and information required for meteorological and weather-sensitive activities, including severe weather and hurricane prevention and preparedness.

21. WMO recently conducted a feasibility study in the English-speaking Caribbean countries aimed at designing a plan for the replacement of six severe weather surveillance radars. This proposal will be submitted to potential donors, including the European Union.

22. Within the WMO Voluntary Cooperation Programme, the United States National Weather Service will provide new radiosonde observing equipment for the 10 meteorological stations in the Caribbean. Such a system is of great importance for natural disaster prevention and preparedness, particularly where hurricanes are concerned.

23. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) allocated financial assistance under the regular programme for the project on communication in the service of economic and social integration in Latin America. This is one of a series of activities being developed by the UNESCO Office in Caracas in close association with SELA. Moreover, the following were approved under the UNESCO Participation Programme 1994-1995: implementation of a programme on integrated social policy and a Latin American and Caribbean programme concerning world changes; and provision of support for SELA integrated information services.

24. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has both collaborated with and supported the Permanent Secretariat of SELA in the execution of activities relating to the industrial and technological development of the Latin American and Caribbean countries, particularly activities resulting from the Review and Regional Coordination Meeting prior to the fifth General Conference of UNIDO held at SELA headquarters, as well as from resolutions adopted at the fifth UNIDO Conference. In addition, UNIDO has collaborated with the Permanent Secretariat in the organization of the first meeting of the Regional Forum on Industrial Policy, which will be held in October 1994.

25. The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) participated in the fourth meeting of the Latin American and Caribbean Forum on Intellectual Property Policies, held at SELA headquarters from 27 to 29 April 1994. At the request of SELA, WIPO prepared and presented at that meeting the following papers entitled "Recent trends and changes in the protection of industrial property rights at the regional and international levels", and "Latest developments regarding industrial property information systems based on CD-ROM technology".

26. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) did not implement any activities in cooperation with SELA but expressed its interest in expanding possible avenues of cooperation in the future.

27. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has continued to collaborate with the Permanent Secretariat of SELA, particularly through project RLA/92/008, through which it has been involved in the conduct of major studies of the Latin American and Caribbean countries concerning privatization, retrofitting and restructuring of businesses and modernization of systems of production, innovation and technological development as strategic factors in competitiveness and industrial development, fostering of small and medium-sized enterprises in the context of modernization and competitiveness, and methodologies for evaluating the effectiveness of social expenditure.

28. UNDP has also provided funding for the Meeting of Experts on Prospects for External Financing for Latin America and the Caribbean, which was held on Margarita Island, Venezuela, on 11 and 12 March 1993, as one of a series of review and regional coordination meetings organized in the framework of project RLA/92/008. As an input to the meeting, a document entitled "New external financing systems for Latin America and the Caribbean" was prepared; the document was presented to the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on the Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries (Development Committee) at its meeting held on 1 May 1993.

29. UNDP also actively participated in the 20th ordinary meeting of the Latin American Council, held in Mexico City from 30 May to 3 June 1994.

30. The meeting of trade policy officials of States members of SELA will be held in Quito, Ecuador, on 19 and 20 September. This meeting will be financed in part with UNDP resources.

31. UNDP has also provided funds for the Ibero-American Business Forum on Prospects and Opportunities for Foreign Investment in Latin America, to be held in Madrid on 28 September 1994 within the framework of the annual meeting of IMF and the World Bank.

32. On that occasion, high-level representatives from the region will discuss a document entitled "50 años de Bretton Woods: reflexiones y propuestas para una mejor relación con América Latina y el Caribe", which was prepared with UNDP funds.

33. The Permanent Secretariat of SELA has prepared a document entitled "Hacia políticas sociales más eficientes: elaboración de un indicador para evaluar la eficiencia del gasto social en América Latina y el Caribe", as part of a project addressing the issue. UNDP also made a major contribution to the preparation of this document.

34. In addition, UNDP will finance the regional meeting of experts on the effectiveness of social expenditure, to be held at the headquarters of the Permanent Secretariat on 17 and 18 October 1994.

35. The UNDP Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) and the UNDP Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean have continued to provide support for the conduct of meetings of directors of international technical cooperation, which are convened once a year by the Permanent Secretariat, with the aim of defining policies to strengthen the management capacity of national TCDC focal points, and of identifying and promoting activities, programmes and projects in priority areas defined by Governments.

36. The UNDP Special Unit for TCDC provided financial support for the conduct of the Meeting of Experts on Unfair Competition and Competition Policies, held in Mexico City in July 1993.

37. The 9th Meeting of Directors of International Technical Cooperation and the Meeting of the Coordination Mechanism for International Bodies and Regional Forums Engaged in TCDC Activities were held from 16 to 20 May 1994 in La Paz, Bolivia.

38. During the period under review, especially as the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations reached its final stages, collaboration between the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and SELA in the area of trade greatly intensified. During the latter part of 1993, a SELA official worked at the UNCTAD secretariat within the context of the project on international trade and trade relations for Latin America and the Caribbean (LATINTRADE project), designed, among other things, to support the Latin American countries in the final negotiating process.

39. During the period leading up to the formal conclusion of the Uruguay Round and the adoption of the Final Act, UNCTAD and SELA collaborated in the preparation of an evaluation of the results of the Round from the viewpoint of the Latin American countries. This evaluation was discussed at a workshop held in Caracas in March 1994 and was subsequently finalized and circulated to the Latin American countries before the ministerial meeting held at Marrakesh. During the meeting, the Officer-in-Charge of UNCTAD and the Permanent Secretary of SELA met with Latin American delegations to discuss a draft programme for joint technical assistance. The UNCTAD secretariat participated in the special session of the Latin American Council, which examined the results of the Uruguay Round.

40. UNCTAD and SELA are continuing their collaboration in the execution of the LATINTRADE project, whose objective is to enhance and strengthen the negotiating capacities of the Latin American and Caribbean countries in order to enable them to participate more effectively in trade agreements. The project, for which UNCTAD and SELA are jointly seeking additional funding to enable it to continue, will include post-Uruguay Round implementation issues, trade and environment, trade in services, regional trade information infrastructure and the development of human resources. UNCTAD and SELA have drawn up a programme of regional and national seminars which are currently in progress in, inter alia, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Mexico and Peru.

41. In the context of continued collaboration between UNCTAD and SELA in the area of trade and environment, a regional seminar on environmental policies and

/...

market access for 27 Latin American and Caribbean countries was held in Colombia on 19 and 20 October 1993. The seminar, jointly organized by UNCTAD and SELA, with the cooperation of ECLAC, was hosted by the Government of Colombia and financed by UNDP (Special Unit for TCDC) and the LATINTRADE project. Experts from Colombia, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands and the United States participated, as did experts from the following regional and international organizations: ECLAC, GATT, LAIA, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), SELA, UNCTAD and the World Bank. UNCTAD and SELA are jointly preparing a book for publication in July 1994 (in English and Spanish) on environmental policies and market access for Latin American countries.

42. On 21 October 1993, in conjunction with the regional seminar, the Government of Colombia hosted a workshop which it organized jointly with UNCTAD and with the cooperation of SELA. Some of the experts who were invited to the seminar also participated in the workshop, whose purpose was to examine studies on trade and environment linkages in Colombia undertaken in the context of the UNCTAD/UNDP project entitled "Reconciliation of environment and trade policies".

43. In connection with the follow-up to the Uruguay Round negotiations, UNCTAD, through its LATINTRADE project, and UNDP are planning to hold a workshop on trade and environment in the Americas in the latter part of 1994 in which ECLAC, SELA, other regional organizations, research centres and regional experts are invited to participate. Moreover, UNCTAD and SELA are planning to organize, also for the latter part of 1994, a regional seminar on trade and environment for Latin American and Caribbean countries.

44. On 30 November 1993, the UNCTAD secretariat signed a cooperation agreement with the Latin American Fisheries Development Organization (OLDEPESCA), which is an autonomous permanent organ of SELA.

45. In response to an invitation from the UNCTAD secretariat to attend a workshop on chartering, the SELA Permanent Secretariat indicated that, although the issue of transport had not been part of the SELA work programme for several years, it should be taken up again by the organization in order to stimulate cooperation initiatives between countries of the region.

46. The International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT (ITC) has been consistently maintaining contact with SELA in the field of international trade and related areas since its establishment in 1975.

47. ITC has provided technical assistance to the Latin American and Caribbean Trade Information and Foreign Trade Support Programme (PLACIEX) since 1987 through projects RLA/87/045 and RLA/47/44, financed respectively by UNDP and a trust fund contribution from the Government of the Netherlands. These projects, whose objective was the development of a trade information system of the Caribbean and Latin American countries, were sponsored by SELA in view of the important contribution that can be made by the dissemination of information to the expansion of intraregional trade.

48. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) participated in several meetings convened by SELA on issues relating to social funds, links between

social and economic policies, economic adjustment policies and the social situation.

49. The Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has not implemented any specific projects in cooperation with SELA during the period in question, but SELA has sent representatives to the ministerial meetings on the environment in Latin America and the Caribbean.

50. The United Nations University (UNU) does not engage in any direct cooperation with SELA but it works with scholars and institutions in several Latin American countries members of SELA and carries out some collaborative activities through their research and training centres, in the context of the World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU/WIDER) and the Institute for New Technologies (UNU/INTECH).

51. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (UNCHS (Habitat)) is a substantive partner of SELA, particularly in the area of promoting adequate policies to strengthen the management of human settlements and to improve the general condition of human settlements in the Latin American region. UNCHS (Habitat) expressed its desire to establish closer cooperation with SELA in the future.

III. CONCLUSION

52. It is important to emphasize that cooperation between SELA and the programmes, organizations and agencies of the United Nations is growing and diversifying, and inter-agency cooperation has been established in many areas in which optimal use is being made of existing resources for the benefit of the countries of the region.

UNITED
NATIONS

A S

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/383
S/1994/1052
14 September 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-ninth session
Item 151 of the provisional agenda*
THE SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED
TERRITORIES OF CROATIA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-ninth year

Letter dated 14 September 1994 from the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I would like to draw your attention to the new acts of Serbian aggression against the Republic of Croatia. Last night, at approximately 1940 hours, Serbian paramilitary units from the territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina launched an artillery attack against the Croatian city of Zupanja and its surroundings. A total of 28 artillery shells of various calibres were fired, causing considerable material damage upon their impact in the city. The attack ceased only after 2200 hours.

On 12 September, another part of Croatia was attacked. "Yugoslav Army" elements, from their positions at Sitnice in Montenegro in the "Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)", opened small-arms and mortar-fire on the village of Dubravka in the region of Dubrovnik in Croatia. The attack began at 2135 hours and lasted until 2357 hours. Fourteen impacts were recorded in that period, mostly of 82 millimetre ordnance.

I would like to draw your attention to the previous letters (S/1994/960; S/1994/969; S/1994/982 and S/1994/987) addressing the same issues, where our Government has emphasized that it considers the present situation a threat to the security and territorial integrity of the Republic of Croatia. The ongoing peace process and stability in the wider region can be seriously jeopardized if this series of events is allowed to continue unabated.

---

* A/49/150.

I would kindly request for the distribution of this letter as a document of the General Assembly, under item 151 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Permanent Representative

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/384
14 September 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
Item 82 of the provisional agenda*

INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the Secretary-General

1. Under the terms of Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations, "Members of the United Nations which have or assume responsibilities for the administration of territories whose peoples have not yet attained a full measure of self-government" undertake to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General information "... relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the territories for which they are respectively responsible other than those territories to which Chapters XII and XIII apply". In addition, the General Assembly, in several resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 48/45 of 10 December 1993, requested the administering Powers concerned "to transmit or continue to transmit to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 e of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned".

2. The table annexed to the present report shows the dates on which information called for under Article 73 e of the Charter was transmitted to the Secretary-General in respect of the years from 1991 to 1994.

3. The information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter follows in general the standard form approved by the General Assembly and includes information on geography, history, population and economic, social and educational conditions. In the case of Territories under the administration of New Zealand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, the annual reports on the Territories also include information on constitutional matters. Additional information on political and

---

* A/49/150.

constitutional developments on Tokelau is given by the representative of New Zealand during meetings of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. Supplementary information is also made available by New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States concerning Territories under their administration.

4. In compliance with the provisions of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963 and other relevant resolutions of the Assembly, including in particular resolution 48/45, the Secretariat has continued to use the information transmitted in the preparation for the Special Committee of working papers on each Territory. The Special Committee has taken this information into account in formulating its decisions on these Territories, which are set forth in the relevant chapters of the Committee's report to the General Assembly at its current session (see A/49/23 (Parts V-VIII)). The report also contains an account of the action taken by the Special Committee in implementation of resolution 1970 (XVIII) (A/49/23 (Part IV), chap. VII).

Annex

DATES OF TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND PERIOD COVERED a/

	Information received in 1993		Information received in 1994	
	Date of transmission	Period covered	Date of transmission	Period covered
FRANCE				
New Caledonia b/	-	-	-	-
NEW ZEALAND (1 July-30 June) c/				
Tokelau	5 April 1993	1991/92	28 April 1994 18 July 1994	1993/94 1992/94
PORTUGAL				
East Timor d/	-	-	-	-
SPAIN				
Western Sahara e/	-	-	-	-
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND				
Anguilla	13 July 1993	1991-1993	19 August 1994	1992-1994
Bermuda	12 April 1993 21 May 1993	1992 1990-1992	4 April 1994 15 July 1994	1993 1992-1994
British Virgin Islands	13 July 1993	1992	-	-
Cayman Islands	-	-	-	-
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	29 July 1993	1992/93	12 May 1994	1993/94
Gibraltar	12 April 1993	1991	-	-
Montserrat	26 March 1993 6 October 1993	1992 1991/92	26 August 1994	1992/93

/...

	Information received in 1993		Information received in 1994	
	Date of transmission	Period covered	Date of transmission	Period covered
Pitcairn	26 April 1993	1991		
St. Helena (including Tristan da Cunha)	28 May 1993 20 September 1993	1991/92 1992/93	-	-
Turks and Caicos Islands	24 September 1993	1992-1994	-	-
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (1 October-30 September) f/				
American Samoa	12 July 1993	1991/92	-	-
Guam	12 July 1993	1991/92	-	-
United States Virgin Islands	12 July 1993	1992/93	-	-

(Footnotes on following page)

(Footnotes to table)

---

a/ For a preliminary list of territories to which the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960) applies, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighteenth Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 23 (A/5446/Rev.1), annex I.

b/ According to its resolution 41/41 A of 2 December 1986, the General Assembly "considers that, in the light of the provisions of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV), New Caledonia is a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the meaning of the Charter".

c/ Period extends from 1 July of the year listed to 30 June of the following year.

d/ In a note verbale dated 6 April 1979 (A/34/311), the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations informed the Secretary-General that the conditions still prevailing in East Timor prevented his Government from assuming its responsibilities for the administration of that Territory. He subsequently informed the Secretary-General (A/35/233, A/36/160, A/37/113, A/38/125, A/39/136, A/40/159, A/41/190, A/42/171, A/43/219 and A/44/262) that the Portuguese Government had nothing to add to the information already provided in that note. The Secretary-General was further informed by the Permanent Representative (A/45/172, A/46/131, A/47/189, A/48/130 and A/49/184) that since the Portuguese Government continued to be prevented "de facto" from exercising its responsibilities for the administration of East Timor due to the latter's illegal occupation by a third country, it remained unable to provide any information concerning the Territory.

e/ On 26 February 1976, the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations informed the Secretary-General that "the Spanish Government, as of today, definitely terminates its presence in the Territory of the Sahara and deems it necessary to place the following on record: ... (a) Spain considers itself henceforth exempt from any responsibility of an international nature in connection with the administration of the said Territory, in view of the cessation of its participation in the temporary administration established for the Territory ..." (A/31/56-S/11997). For the printed text, see Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-first Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1976.

f/ Period extends from 1 October of the previous year to 30 September of the year listed.

UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/49/384/Add.1
3 October 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-ninth session
Agenda item 81

INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Annex, table

Add the following information.

Annex

DATES OF TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND PERIOD COVERED

	Information received in 1993		Information received in 1994	
	Date of transmission	Period covered	Date of transmission	Period covered
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND				
Gibraltar	12 April 1993	1991	16 September 1994	1992
Pitcairn	26 April 1993	1991	16 September 1994	1992-1993
St. Helena (including Tristan da Cunha)	28 May 1993 20 September 1993	1991-1992 1992-1993	23 September 1994	1993-1994

94-38361 (E) 051094 071094